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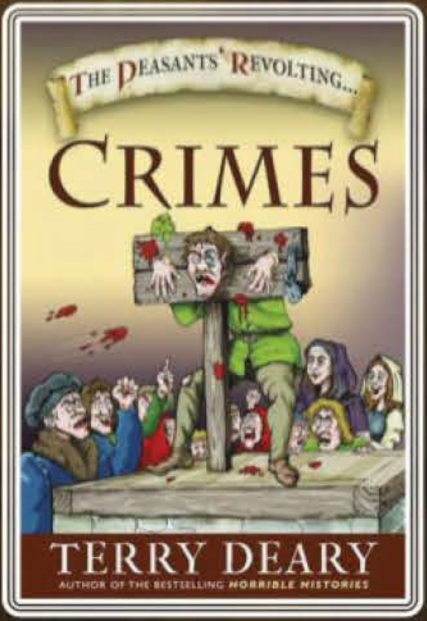
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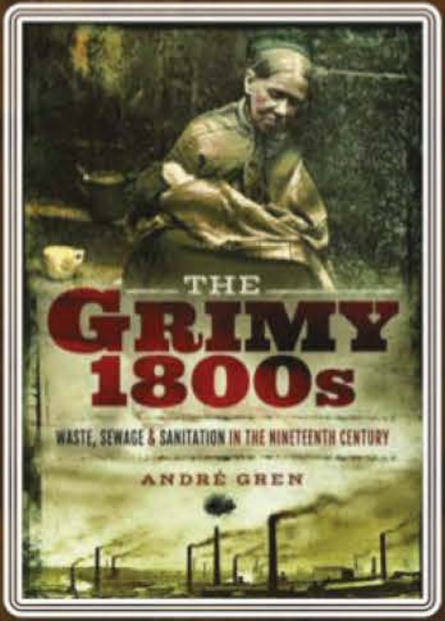
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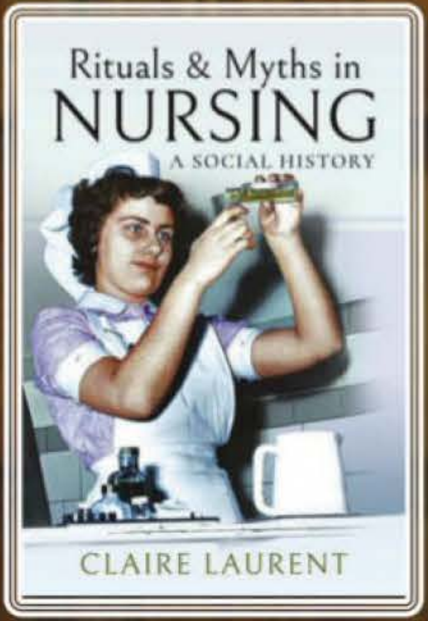
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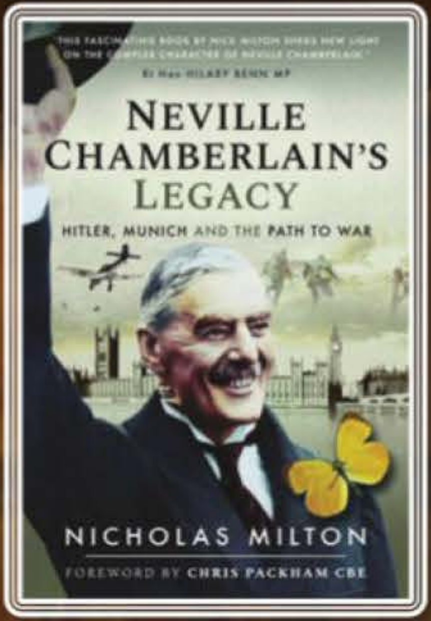
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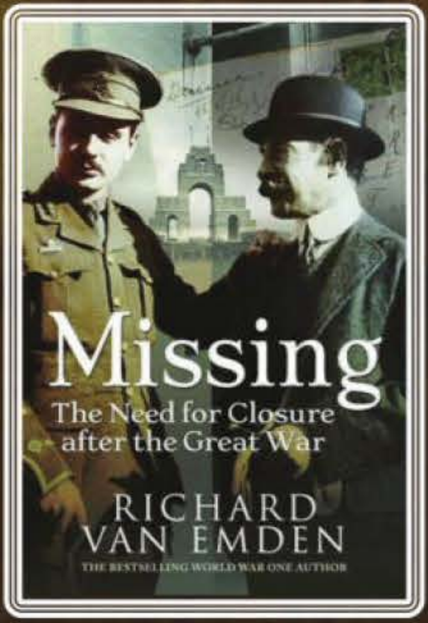
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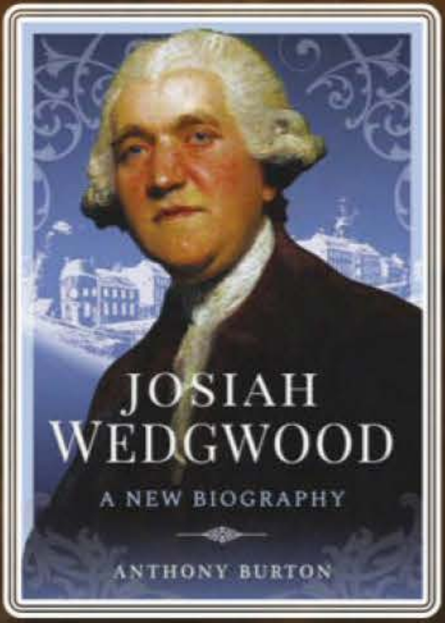
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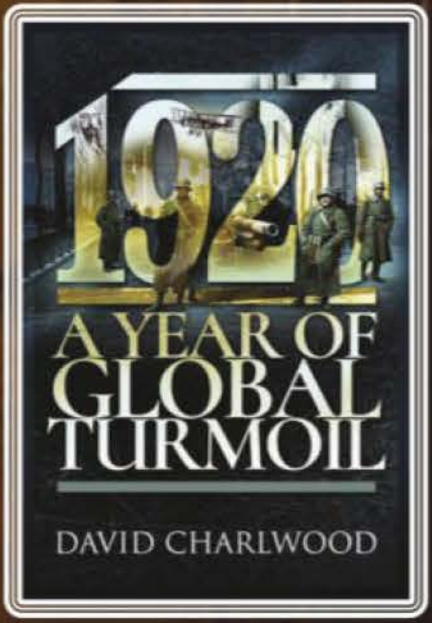
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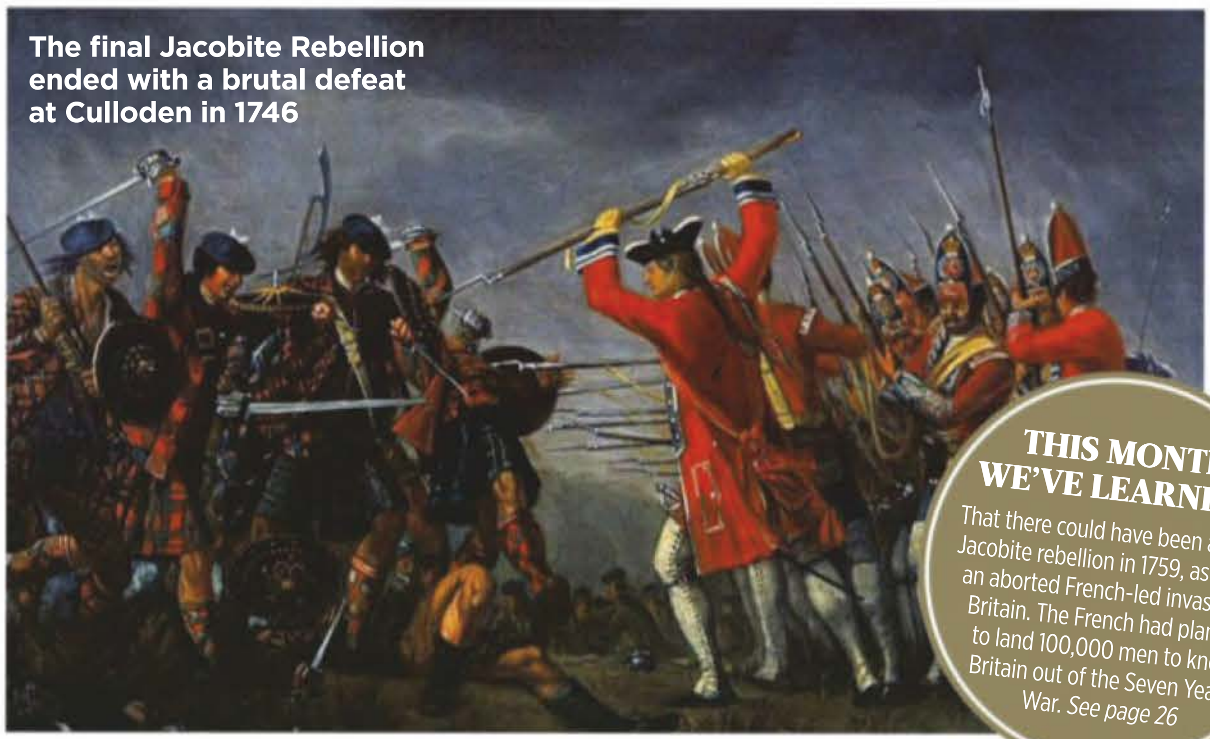

The final Jacobite Rebellion ended with a brutal defeat at Culloden in 1746

THIS MONTH WE'VE LEARNED...

That there could have been another Jacobite rebellion in 1759, as part of an aborted French-led invasion of Britain. The French had planned to land 100,000 men to knock Britain out of the Seven Years' War. See page 26

Jacobite risings

In 1746, the Battle of Culloden – the last full-scale battle to be fought on British soil – put a brutal end to Jacobite efforts to **reinstate a Stuart monarch** to the British throne. Both the battle and the wider drama of the **Jacobite risings have inspired countless books and films** over the years, including the *Outlander* TV series, which returns this month for a fifth season. Murray Pittock explores the Jacobite story in this month's cover feature, from page 26.

From 18th-century Scotland to medieval Africa, we'll also be sharing the **adventures of Abubakari II**, the Malian emperor whose taste for exploration saw him relinquish his throne and sail across the Atlantic (*p52*), as well as examining the, often **bizarre, Victorian passion for stuffed animals** (*p69*).

Elsewhere in the issue, we'll be taking a closer look at the first women of the Third Reich – the wives and girlfriends of Adolf Hitler and his highest ranking officials. Just **how much did they really know** about their husbands' roles in the Final Solution? Find out on page 59. And we'll be putting the Great British 'bobby' under the magnifying glass, investigating some of **Scotland Yard's most famous cases** (*p44*). Plus, if romance is more your thing – it is Valentine's Day this month, after all – we've concocted a list of love potions from history, which, if they don't set your hearts fluttering, may well set your stomach heaving! (*p37*).

Have a great month!

Charlotte

Charlotte Hodgman
Editor

Don't miss our March issue, on sale 20 February

CONTRIBUTORS

Rana Mitter
Academic and author Rana Mitter explains why he'd like to meet Wu Zetian, the only woman to have become emperor of China in her own right. *Page 17*

Nicola Tallis
The author and historian shares her thoughts on the formidable Margaret Beaufort, the mother of the Tudor dynasty. *Page 90*

James Wyllie
We know a great deal about the leading men of the Third Reich, but what about their wives? James Wyllie takes a closer look. *Page 59*

ON THE COVER

69
44
37
26
18
59
52
20
88
86
WEIRD VICTORIAN TAXIDERMY
LAW AND ORDER
BBC HISTORY REVEALED
HIGHLANDERS IN REVOLT?
Inspired by Outlander... the real story of the Jacobites' fight for the British crown
Nelson Mandela walks free
Nazi wives
First ladies of the Third Reich
Abubakari II
Africa's greatest explorer?

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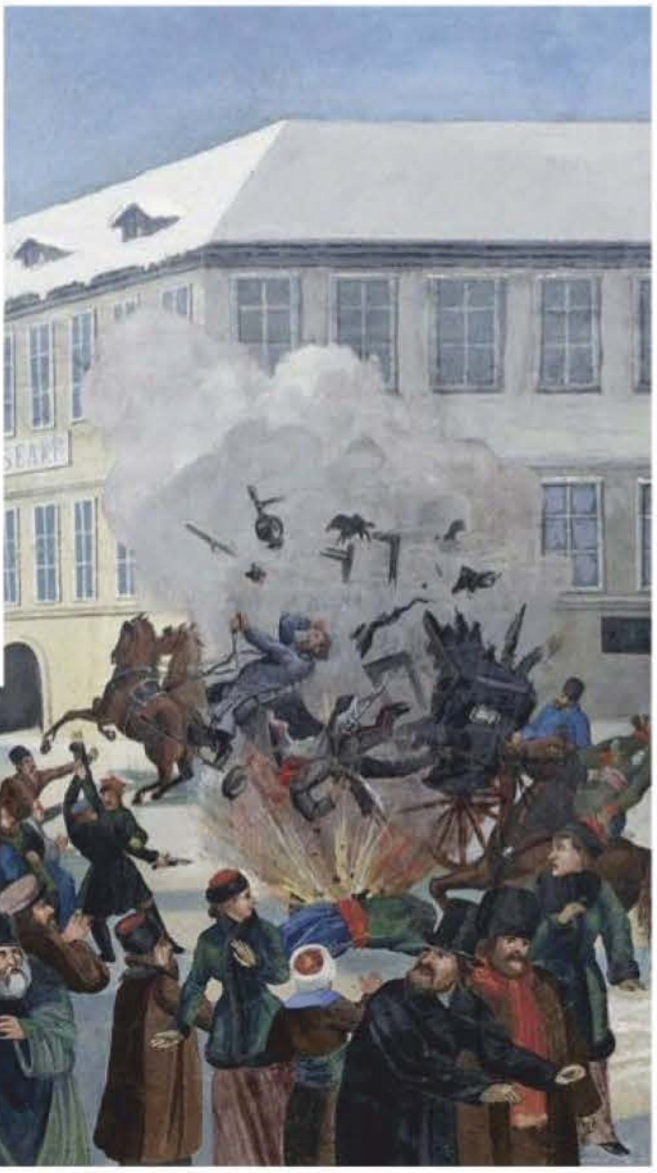
18

▲ **Nelson Mandela, future president of South Africa, walks free**



22

▶ **Even a bulletproof carriage couldn't save Russia's Tsar Alexander II**

REWIND

Snapshots
Bigfoot caught on camera p6

History in the News
A royal suffragette and an aged egg p13

Time Piece
Roman-era underwear p15

History in Colour
A job that really takes the biscuit p16

Your History
Historian and academic Rana Mitter on Chinese ruler Wu Zetian p17

Yesterday's Papers
Mandela is released from prison p18

This Month In... 1636
The Battle of the Alamo p20

Year in Focus: 1881
Tsar Alexander II is mortally wounded, and the First Boer War ends p22

26

HIGHLANDERS IN REVOLT?

The tumultuous Jacobite rebellions explained

desires
Passion

37 ▶ **The things we used to do (and eat) for love**

FEATURES

Return of the Stuarts
How the Jacobite rebellions aimed to return the house of Stuart to the English and Scottish thrones p26

Top 10: Love Potions
Throughout history, pining lovers have turned to strange concoctions to woo the objects of their heart's affection p37

The Rise of Scotland Yard
How the colourful, real detectives of the most famous police force in Britain inspired the likes of Sherlock Holmes p44

Abubakari II
Discover the Malian emperor who gave up his throne to find out what lay beyond the blue expanse of the Atlantic p50

The Nazi Wives Club
Their surnames are familiar, their first names less so – who were the women who stood alongside the leading men of Nazi Germany? p59

Walter Potter's Taxidermy
Explore the Victorians' fascination with stuffed animals through one of the era's most unusual artists p69

ALAMY X4, GETTY IMAGES X4, MARY EVANS X1, TOPFOTO X1

FEBRUARY 2020

CONTENTS

Q&A

Ask the Experts
Your questions answered p75

ON OUR RADAR

What's On
Our picks for this month p81

TV & Radio
Top history programmes p86

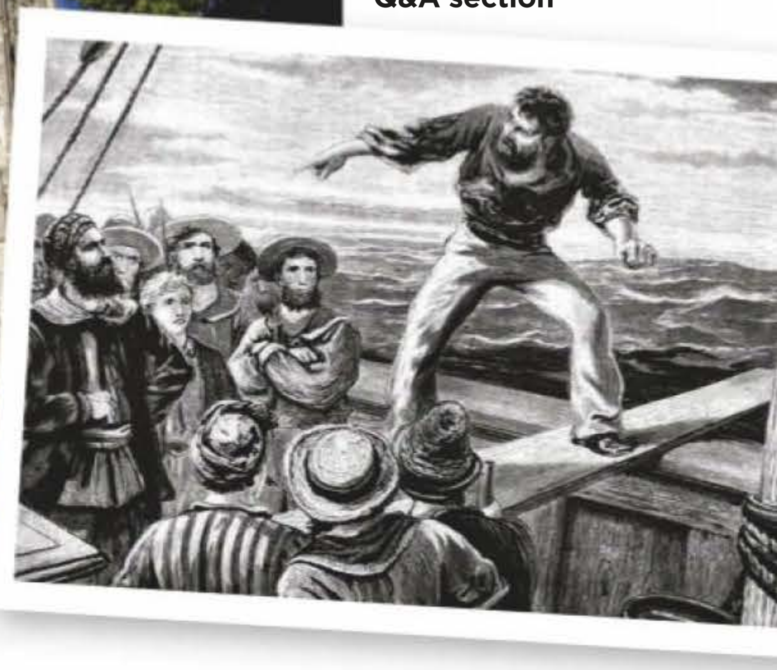
Britain's Treasures
Canterbury Cathedral p88

Books
The latest historical releases p90

EVERY ISSUE

Letters p94
Crossword p96
Next Issue p97
Photo Finish p98

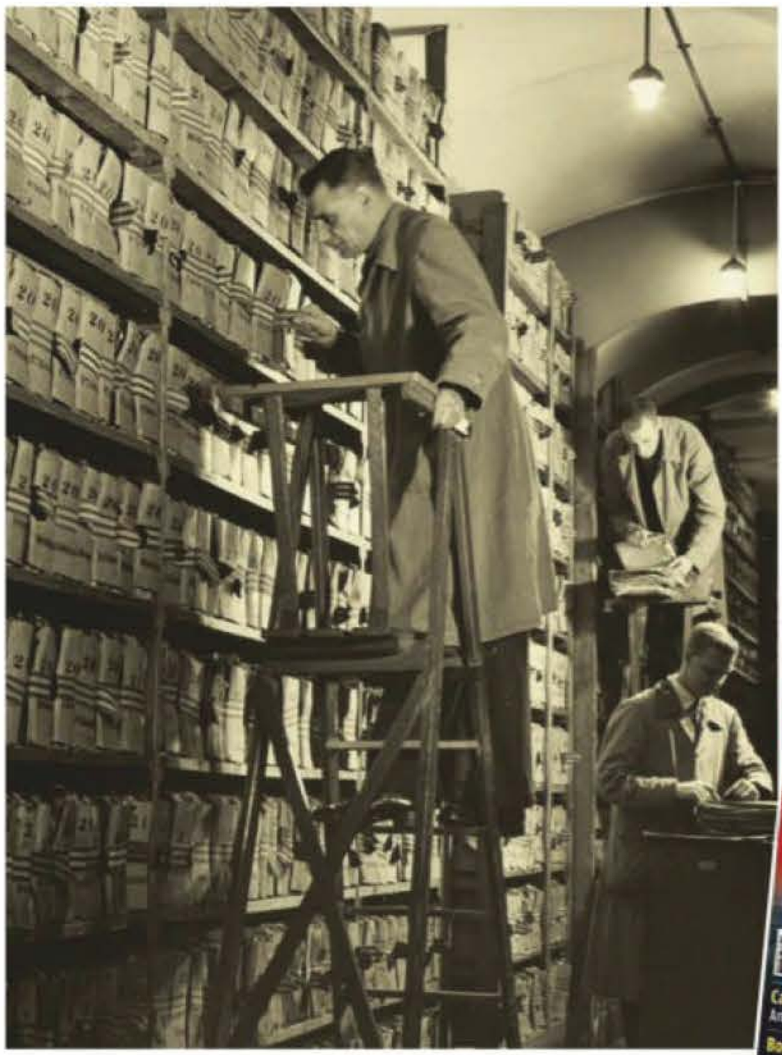
88 ▲ Discover the gruesome killing that dominates Canterbury Cathedral's past



75 ▼ How were pirates punished? This and other historical queries are solved in the Q&A section

69 ▲ The weird and whimsical world of Victorian taxidermy

59 ▲ How complicit were the Third Reich's 'first ladies' in its crimes?



44 ▲ The birth of the first – and arguably most famous – British police force

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FANTASTIC MEDIEVAL BEASTS
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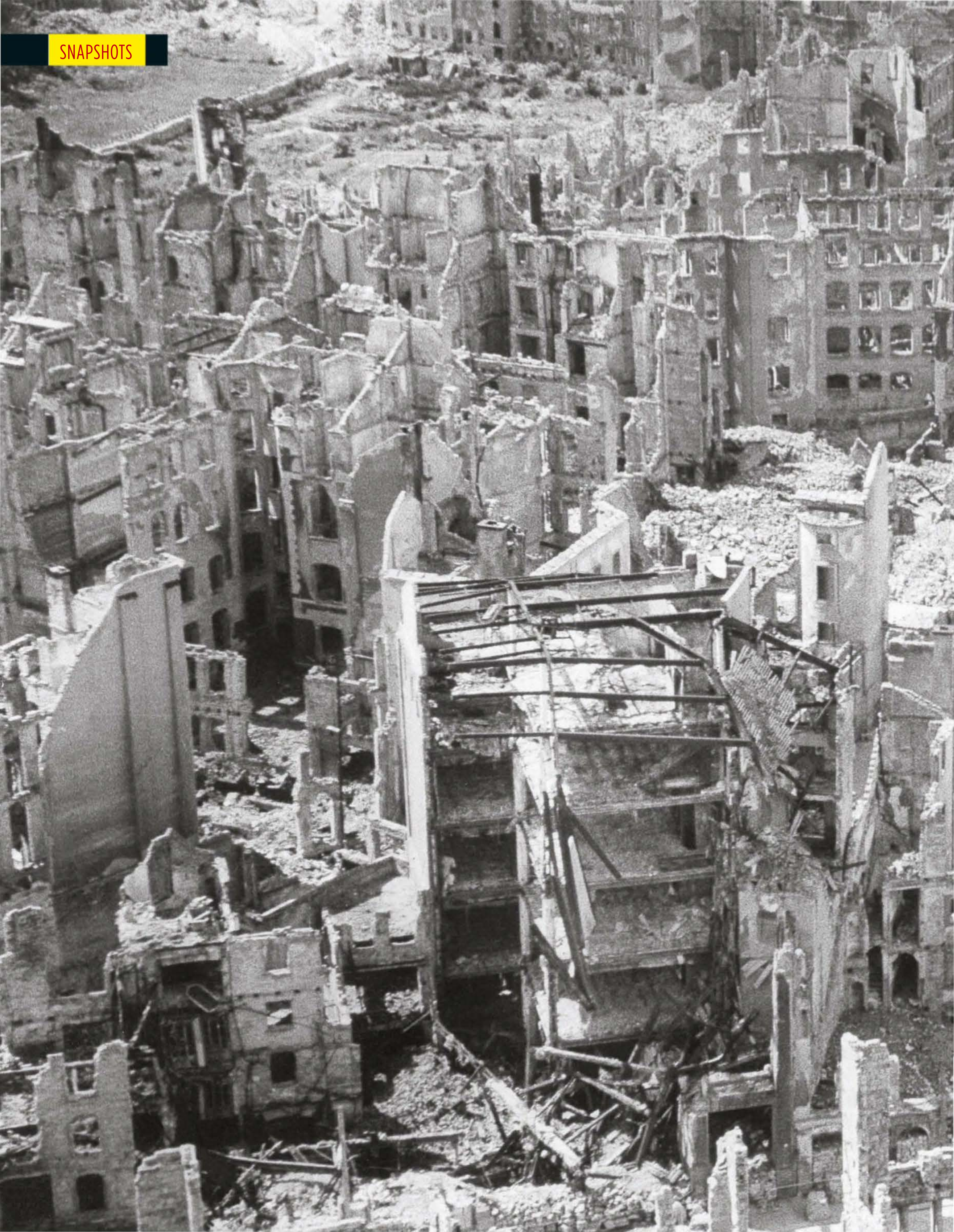
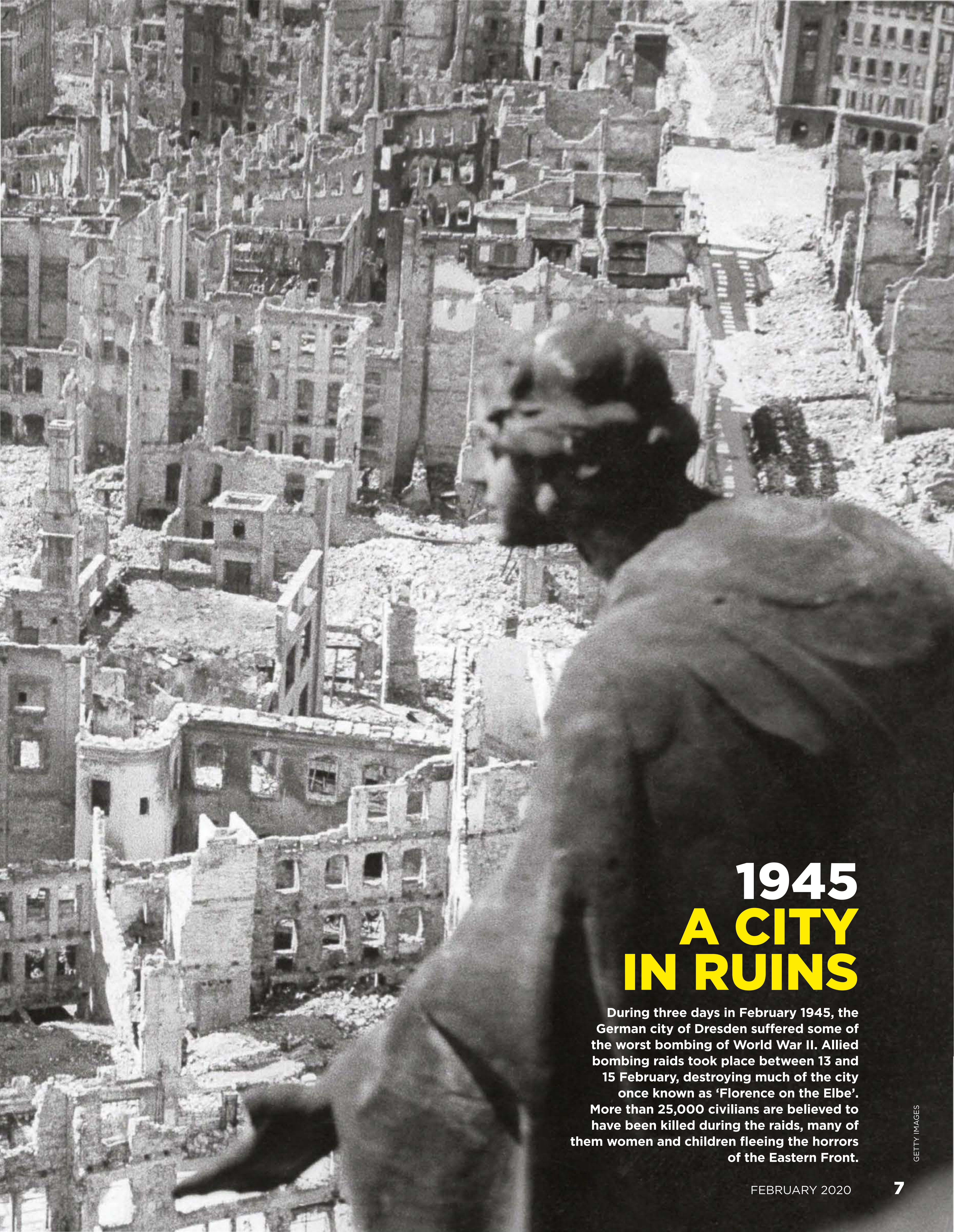
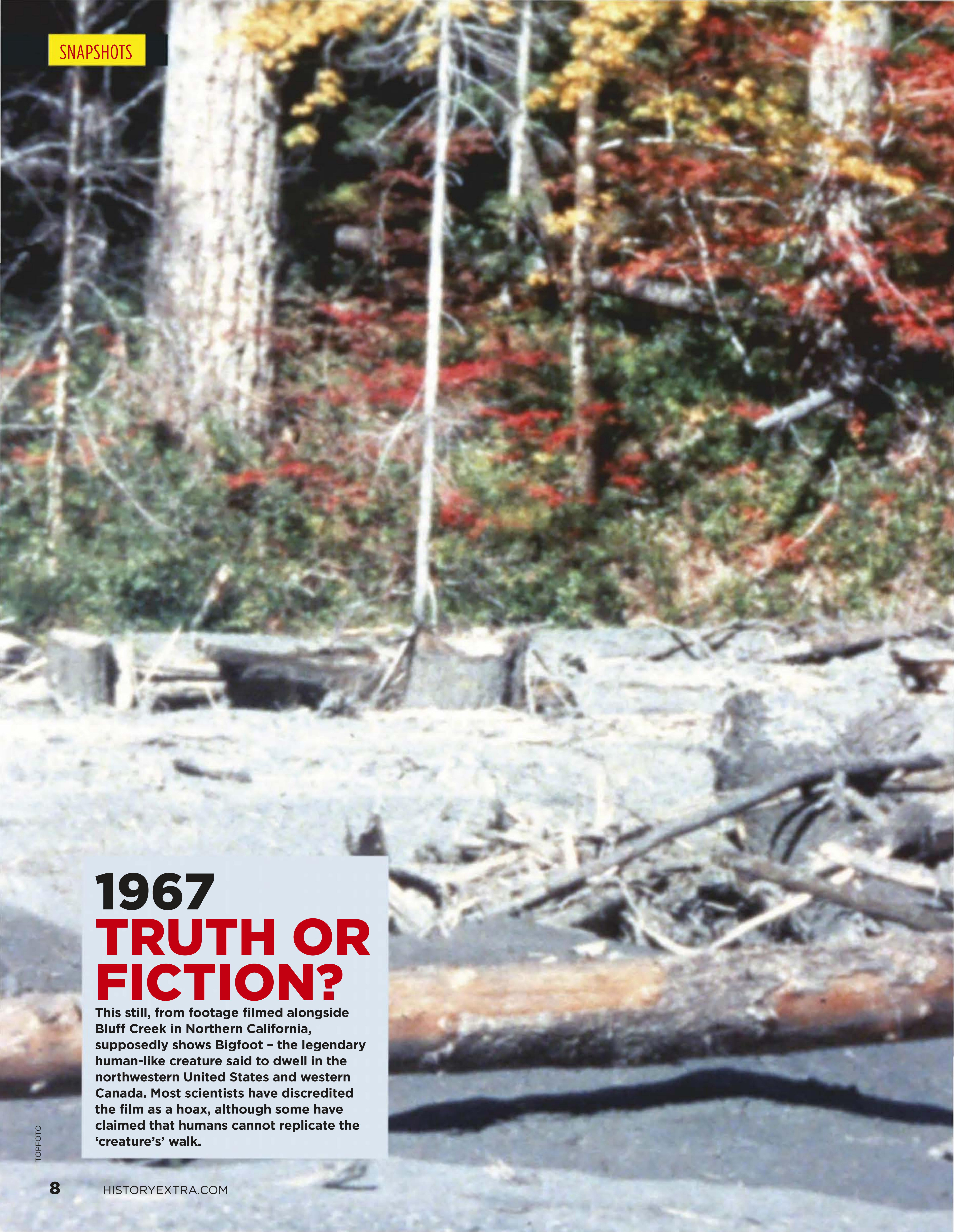




1945
A CITY IN RUINS

During three days in February 1945, the German city of Dresden suffered some of the worst bombing of World War II. Allied bombing raids took place between 13 and 15 February, destroying much of the city once known as 'Florence on the Elbe'. More than 25,000 civilians are believed to have been killed during the raids, many of them women and children fleeing the horrors of the Eastern Front.

GETTY IMAGES

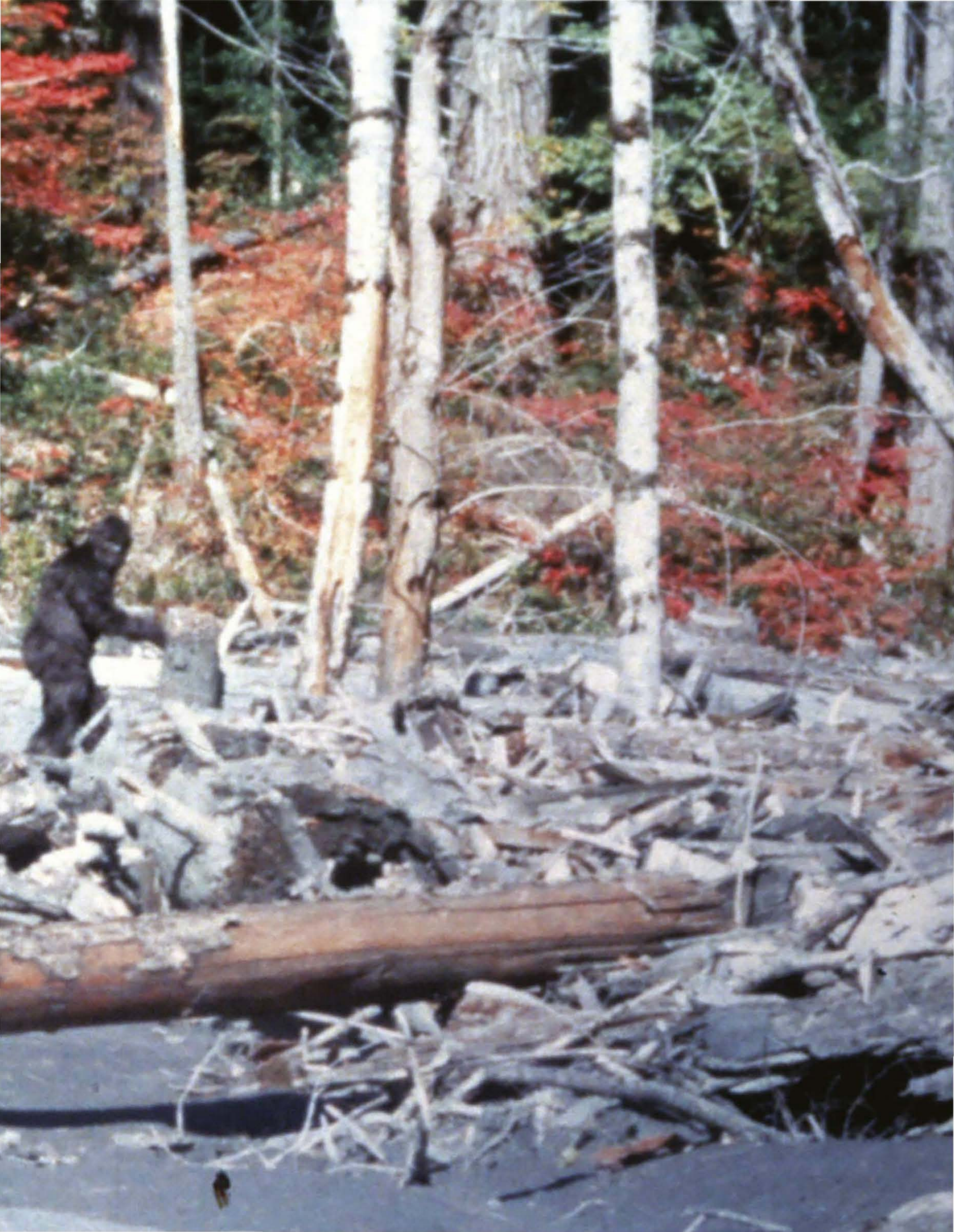


1967

TRUTH OR FICTION?

This still, from footage filmed alongside Bluff Creek in Northern California, supposedly shows Bigfoot – the legendary human-like creature said to dwell in the northwestern United States and western Canada. Most scientists have discredited the film as a hoax, although some have claimed that humans cannot replicate the 'creature's' walk.

TOPFOTO



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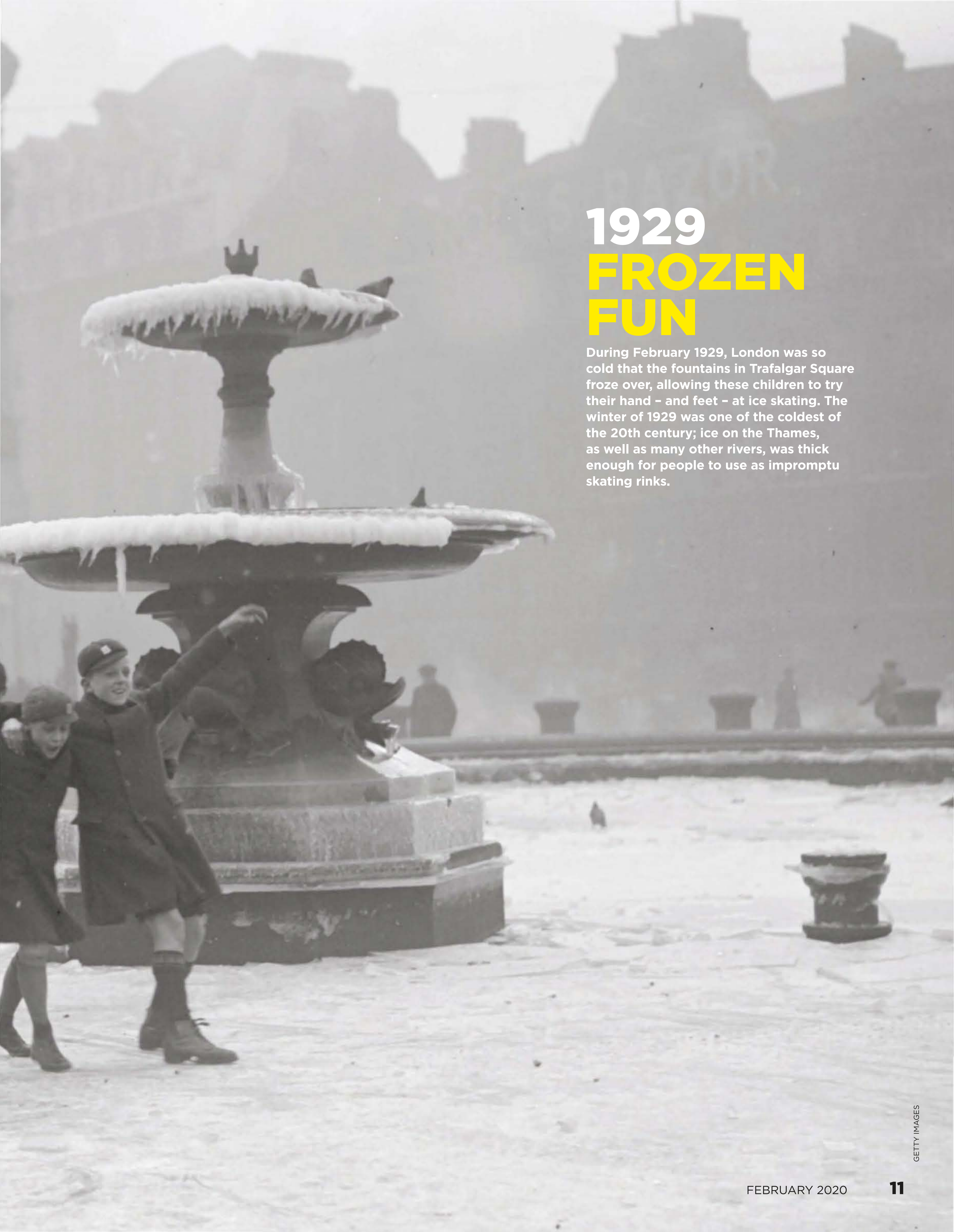

1929
FROZEN FUN

During February 1929, London was so cold that the fountains in Trafalgar Square froze over, allowing these children to try their hand – and feet – at ice skating. The winter of 1929 was one of the coldest of the 20th century; ice on the Thames, as well as many other rivers, was thick enough for people to use as impromptu skating rinks.

GETTY IMAGES

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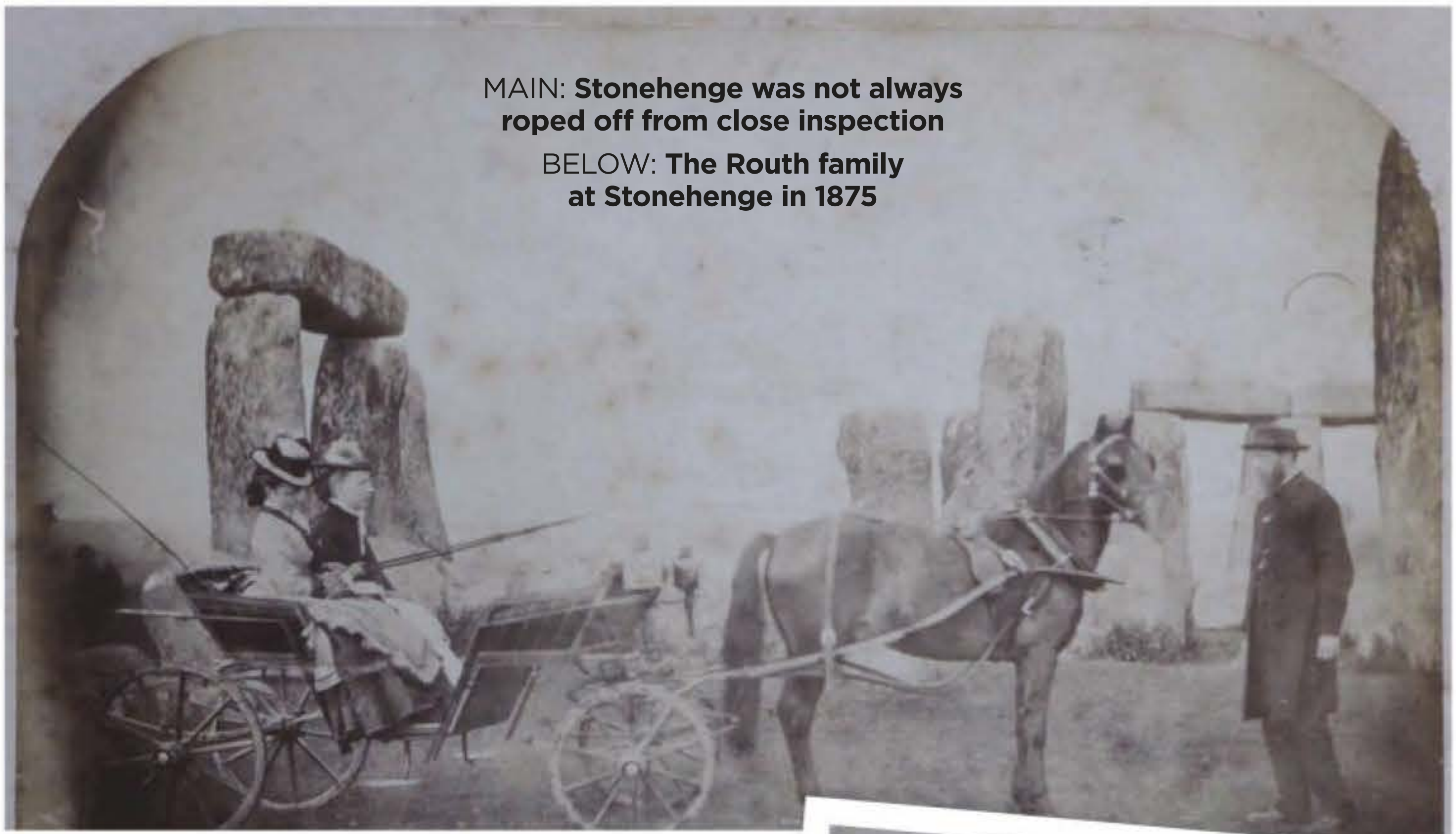
REWIND

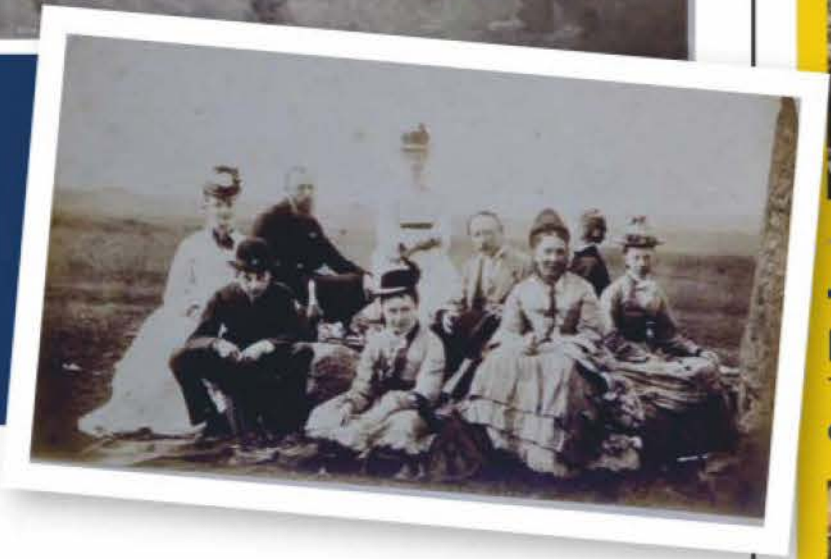
Giving you a fresh perspective on the events and findings from history

HISTORY IN THE NEWS



MAIN: **Stonehenge was not always roped off from close inspection**

BELOW: **The Routh family at Stonehenge in 1875**



FIRST FAMILY SNAP AT STONEHENGE

Earliest family photo taken at Stonehenge is found

A photo that is believed to be the earliest family shot taken at Stonehenge has been unearthed. The image – dating to 1875 – was discovered after English Heritage, which manages the site, issued a call-out for holiday photos that had been taken at Stonehenge over the years, to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the ancient Wiltshire monument being in public hands.

More than 1,000 photographs were sent in, but it was images of the Routh family that stood out. One image shows the group sitting amongst the stones with a picnic blanket while another features a horse-drawn carriage with the impressive stones in the background.

An earlier photograph of Stonehenge that predates the Routh family photos by 22 years, does not feature people.

Other images sent in show how visitors often dressed in their Sunday best when on days out. Until the mid-1970s, visitors to Stonehenge were allowed to get close to the stones and even climb on them.

The 4,500-year-old stone circle is one of the most visited heritage sites in the UK but archaeologists still cannot agree on the exact reason it was built. Theories range from a device to predict major astronomical events, a place of worship or an arena of healing.

The photos are now on display at the Stonehenge Visitor Centre until August 2020. The exhibition highlights how photography, fashion, tourism and the monument itself have all changed over the years. If you believe you have holiday photos taken at Stonehenge that date back further than 1875, English Heritage would love to hear from you. Email *YourStonehenge@English-Heritage.org.uk*.

COLOUR PHOTO
A job that takes the biscuit....p16

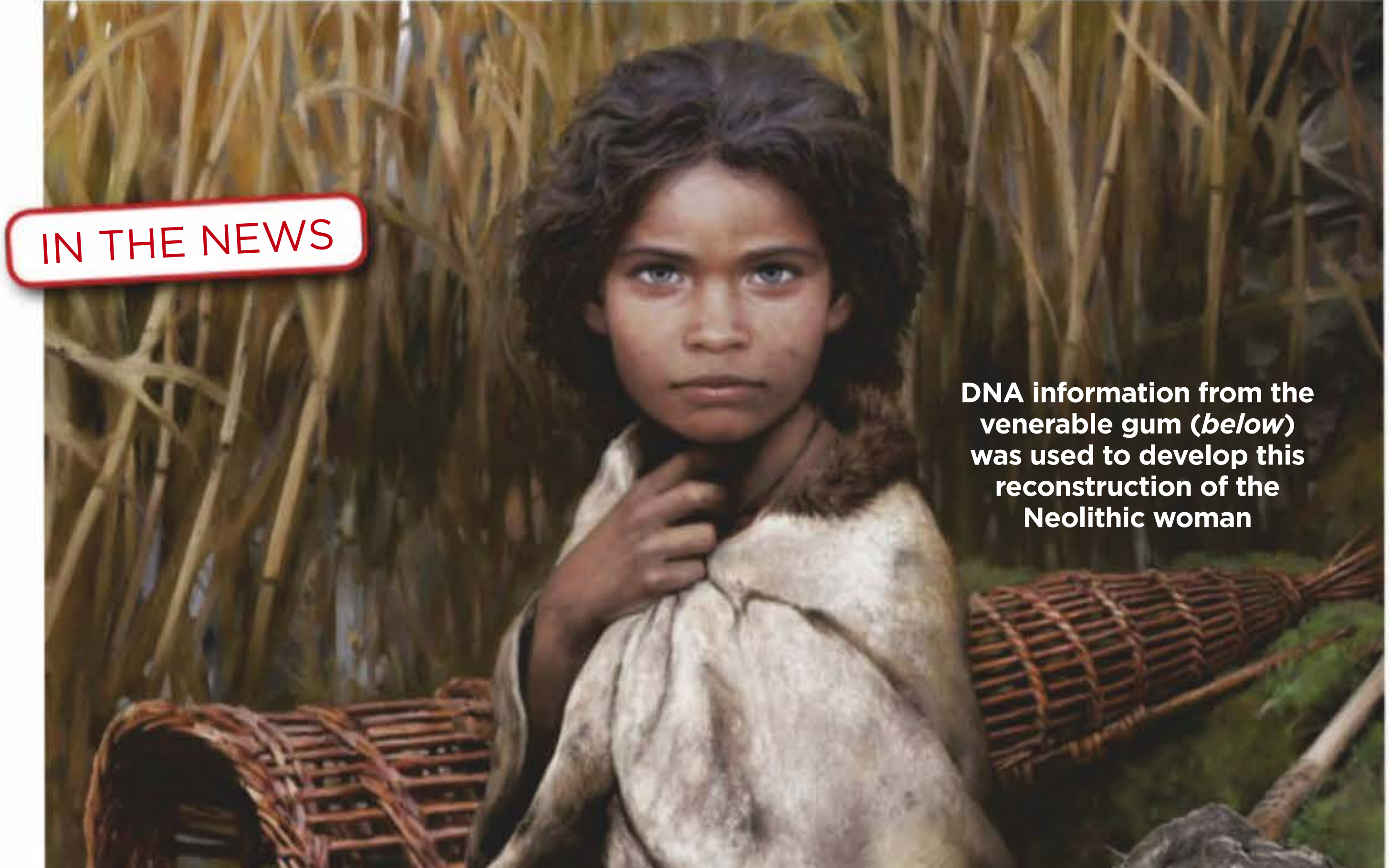
YOUR HISTORY
Historian, author and academic Rana Mitter....p17

YESTERDAY'S PAPERS
Nelson Mandela is released from prison..p18

THIS MONTH IN... 1836
The 13-day siege of the Alamo p20

YEAR IN FOCUS: 1881
The first black international footballer...p22

ALAMY X1, GETTY X2, KEITH BARNES X1, ROUTH FAMILY X2, TOPFOTO X1



DNA information from the venerable gum (*below*) was used to develop this reconstruction of the Neolithic woman

CHEWING GUM REVEALS ANCIENT FACE

The features of a Neolithic woman from Denmark have been brought to life

A piece of ancient chewing gum has unlocked the secrets of the Neolithic Danes. Scientists have reassembled the DNA of a woman who lived in Denmark nearly 6,000 years ago, just by using a piece of chewing gum she had discarded.

During excavations at a site on Lolland Island, Denmark, a piece of chewing gum made of birch tar was unearthed in a lagoon. DNA that had been preserved in the gum revealed a female hunter-gatherer with dark hair, dark skin and blue eyes.

Leading the research, Hannes Schroeder from the University of Copenhagen, says: "This is the first time anyone has got a full ancient genome from anything other than bone or teeth. The preservation of the gum is quite extraordinary."

Carbon dating of the gum suggests the woman lived about 5,600 years ago near the lagoon – protected from the open sea. Researchers also found material which suggested what her most recent meal had been: duck and hazelnuts.

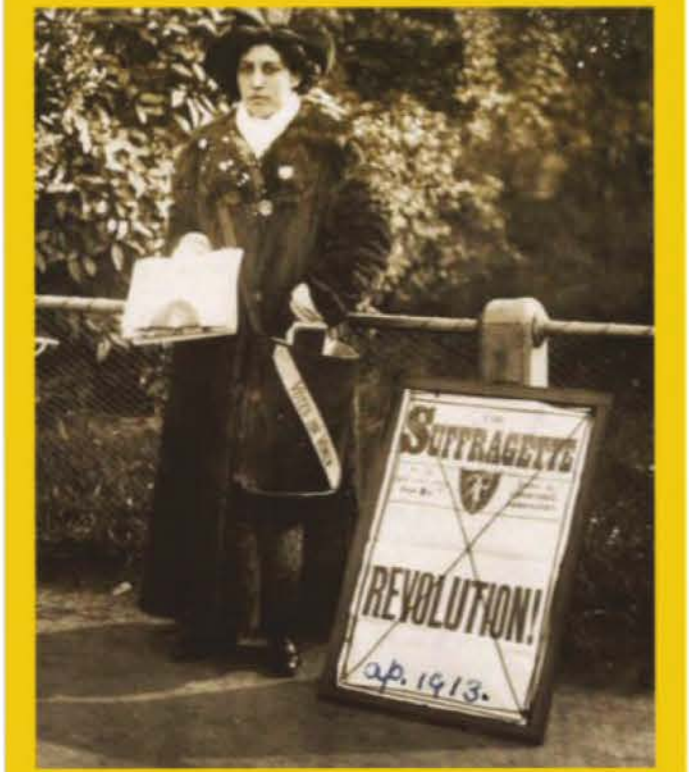
As well as being able to establish the gender and appearance of the woman, researchers also determined that she was more closely related to mainland European hunter-gatherers than those living in Scandinavia at this time.

"We also retrieved DNA from oral microbes and several important human pathogens, which makes this a very valuable source of ancient DNA, especially for time periods where we have no human remains," Schroeder added.

ROYAL SUFFRAGETTE DETAILS REVEALED

Queen Victoria's goddaughter was considered dangerous

The police records of Queen Victoria's goddaughter, Sophia Duleep Singh, are to go on display for the first time. The daughter of the last Maharaja of the Sikh Empire, Singh was also a suffragette, and an active member of the Women's Social and Political Union. Her father had been exiled from India to Britain at 15 and was befriended by Queen Victoria. She was closely monitored by the police, who considered her a danger, and she could often be seen selling *The Suffragette* newspaper outside her apartment at Hampton Court. Her records will go on display at the British Library from 24 April.


THE SUFFRAGETTE
REVOLUTION!
ap. 1913.

Sophia Duleep Singh selling subscriptions to *The Suffragette* in 1913

WORLD WAR II BOMB EVACUATES ITALIAN CITY

In the biggest peacetime evacuation in Italy's history, more than 54,000 people were evacuated from Brindisi after a World War II bomb was discovered. Workers found the bomb in the southern Italian city during the refurbishment of a cinema. More than 60 per cent of the city's population were forced to vacate the area near to where the bomb was discovered for several hours while it was diffused. It's believed that the bomb was of British origin and contained 40kg of dynamite. Thousands of unexploded WWII bombs are still being uncovered in Italy every year.

£4,000

The price that a guide to Victorian London's brothels recently sold for at auction. *The Man of Pleasure's Illustrated Pocket-Book for 1850: A Complete and Gentlemanly Night Guide, London* had been disguised as a wallet and sold for more than 13 times its estimate.

WORLD'S OLDEST FOSSIL TREES FOUND

The world's oldest fossil trees have been discovered in a quarry in Cairo, New York. Dating back 386 million years, the trees are believed to have been part of a forest that stretched further than the neighbouring state of Pennsylvania. The discovery of the fossilised tree roots are thought to be at least two million years older than what was previously believed to be the world's oldest forest, also in New York State. Three types of tree have been identified; it's thought that the forest was wiped out by a flood. The study of these sites will help scientists understand the evolution of trees.

ALAMY X1, HANSONS X1, MUSEUM OF LONDON X1, OXFORD ARCHAEOLOGY X2, THEIS JENSEN X1, TOM BJÖRKLUND X1

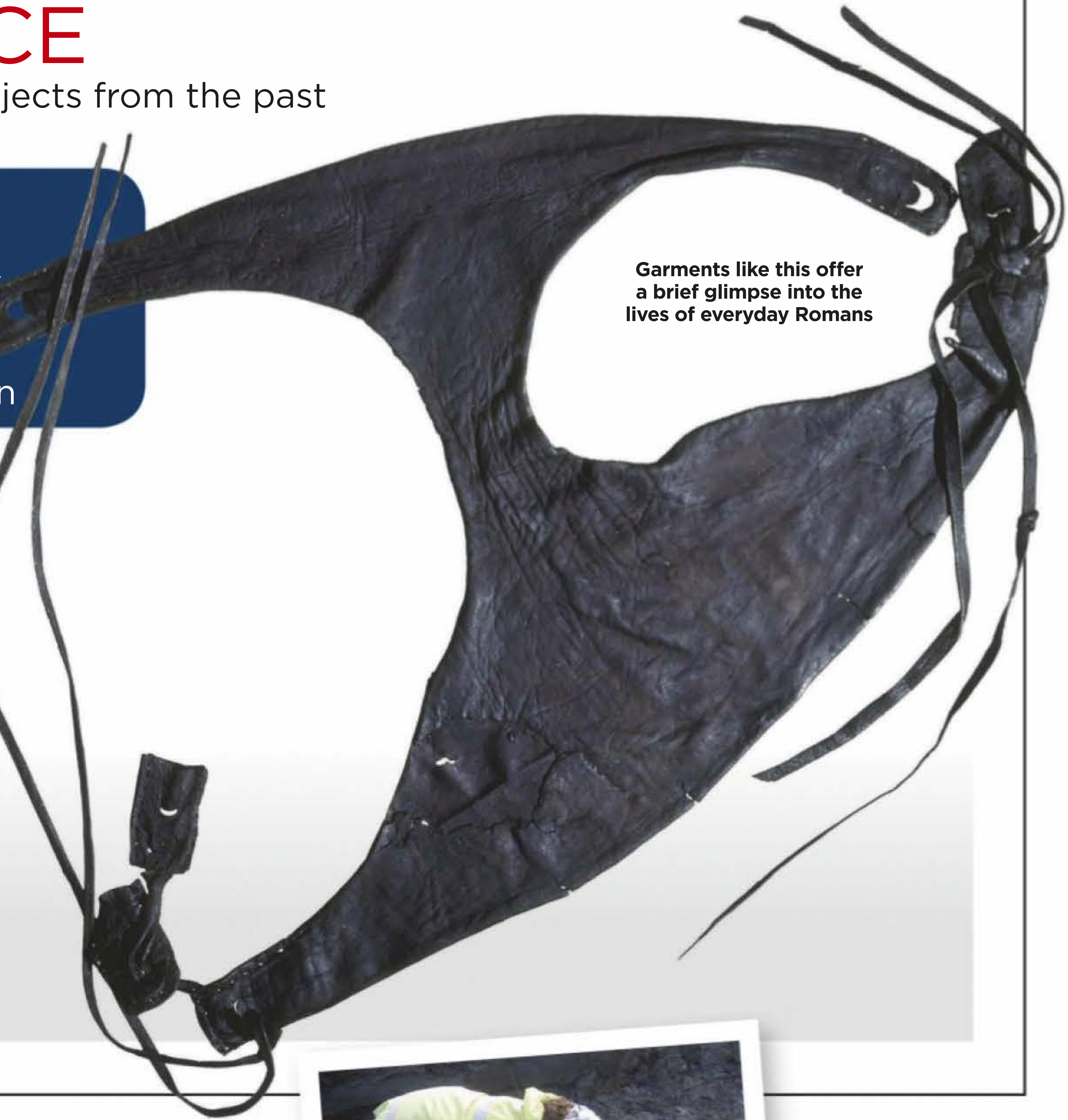
TIME PIECE

A look at everyday objects from the past

WHAT DID THE ROMANS EVER GIVE US?

This item leaves little to the imagination

The modern bikini may have made its fashion debut in 1946, but this one belonged to a Roman. Discovered during an excavation in London, these leather bikini bottoms are thought to have been worn by female gymnasts or acrobatic dancers. Other examples of string briefs have been discovered in the rubbish dumps of Roman London. Dating between cAD 43 and AD 100, this type of bikini would have been fastened around the hips with laces. Some historians believe these may have even been worn as underwear.

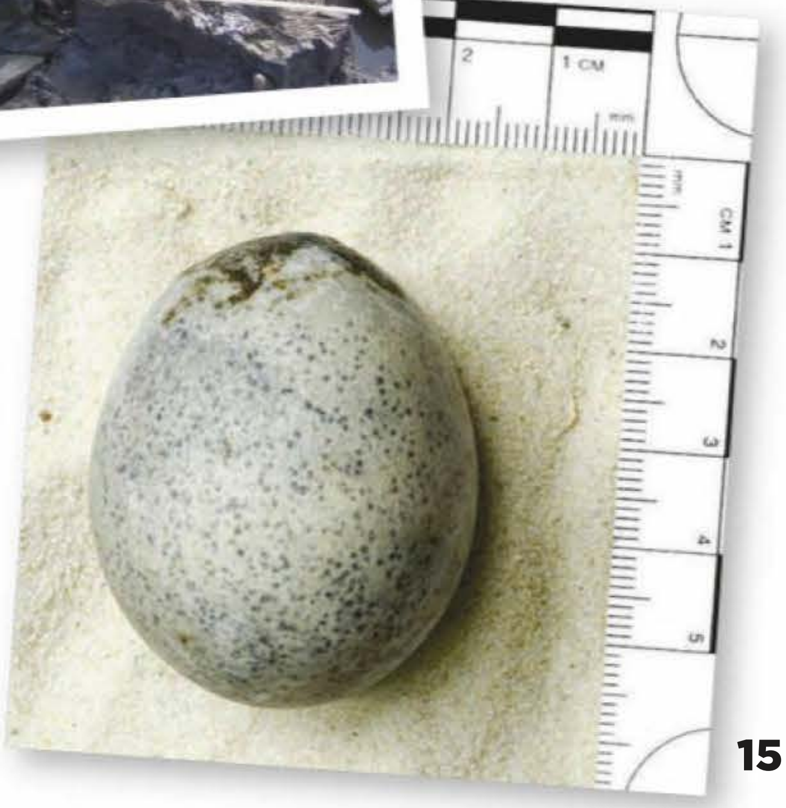


Garments like this offer a brief glimpse into the lives of everyday Romans

ANCIENT EGGS DISCOVERED

The smelly find has been described as unique in the UK

Egg-scavating the surviving find (*below*) was a painstaking process



Roman-era chicken eggs have been uncovered during a dig in Buckinghamshire.

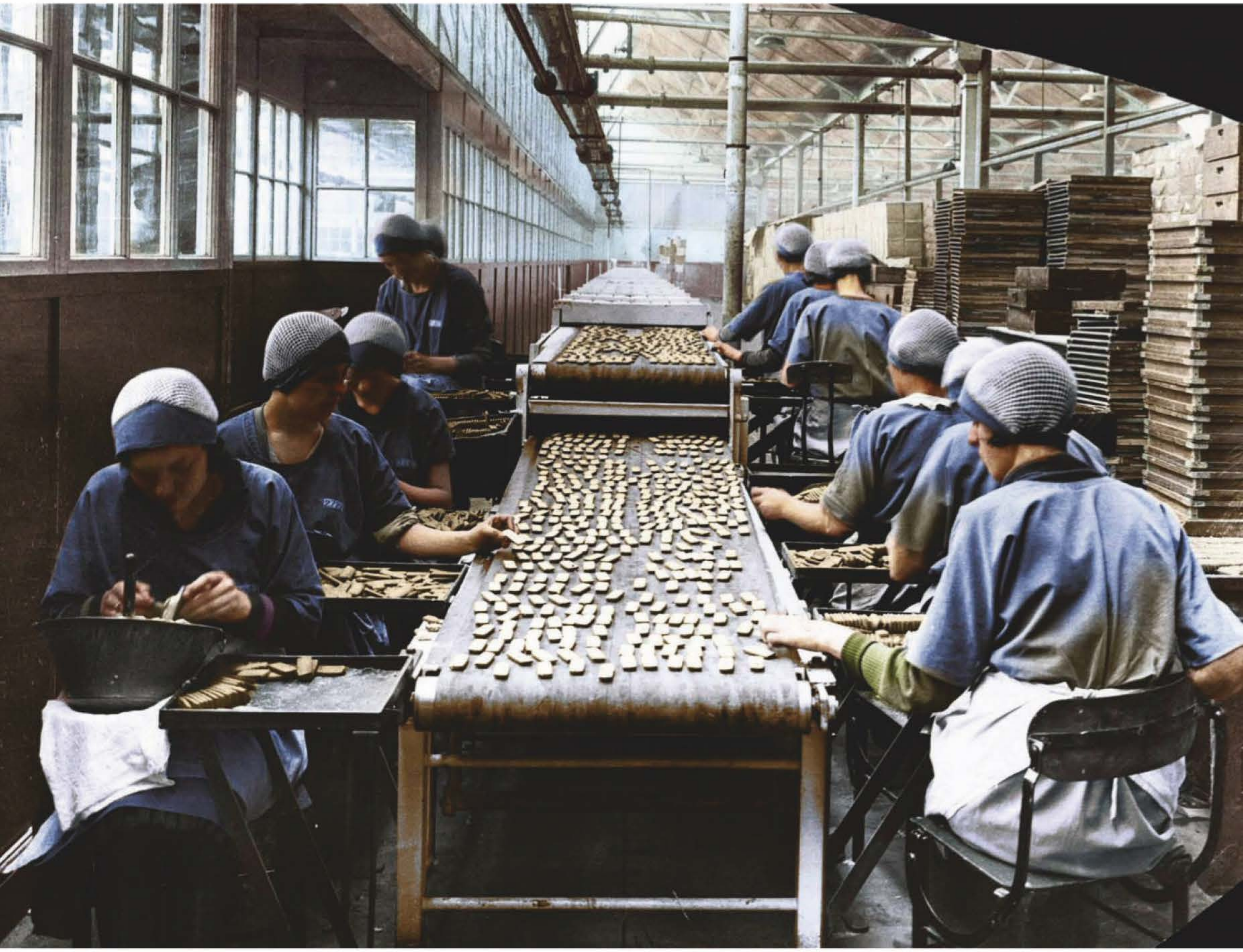
The dig took place between 2007 and 2016, ahead of a new housing development in Aylesbury. After three years of analysis, the dig results have been released with evidence found of a 1,700-year-old Roman settlement.

Among the finds in a waterlogged pit were a basket tray and four chicken eggs. Three of the eggs were broken while being excavated, but the fourth was preserved. Dig project manager, Stuart Foreman, told *The Independent*: "In a pit that has been waterlogged for thousands of years you get things that would never survive in a dry environment. But it's incredible we even got one [egg] out. They were so fragile."

Roman egg shells have been previously found in graves, but this is the first time a complete egg has been unearthed. The pit was used from the third century AD in a similar way to a wishing well, with people throwing things in for good luck.

HISTORY IN COLOUR

Colourised photographs that bring the past to life



GETTY IMAGES

AINTREE, 1926

A group of workers ice biscuits at the WR Jacob & Co biscuit factory. This job would have required immense skill and precision as each biscuit had to look identical. Jacob's started as a small biscuit bakery in Ireland, with this site in Aintree being the company's first factory in England. Opened in 1914, biscuits are still manufactured on site today; during World War I, British armed forces were supplied with packets of Jacob's biscuits.

See more colourised pictures by Marina Amaral @marinamaral2

YOUR HISTORY

Rana Mitter

The Professor of the History and Politics of Modern China at St Cross College, Oxford, tells us why he'd have an escape plan when meeting a certain figure from history, and why Claudette Colvin is as important as Rosa Parks

Rana Mitter is a regular presenter on BBC Radio 3's *Free Thinking*. His books include *China's War with Japan, 1937-1945: The Struggle for Survival* (Allen Lane, 2013)

Q If you could turn back the clock, which single event in history would you want to change?

As a historian of World War II in China, a conflict that killed more than ten million people and caused some 80 million to become refugees, I would prefer my subject not to have existed. If Japan had not invaded Manchuria in 1931, triggering an all-out war between China and Japan in 1937, then China might have had the space to develop its society and economy, and the horrific world war in Asia could have been avoided.

Q If you could meet any figure from history, who would it be?

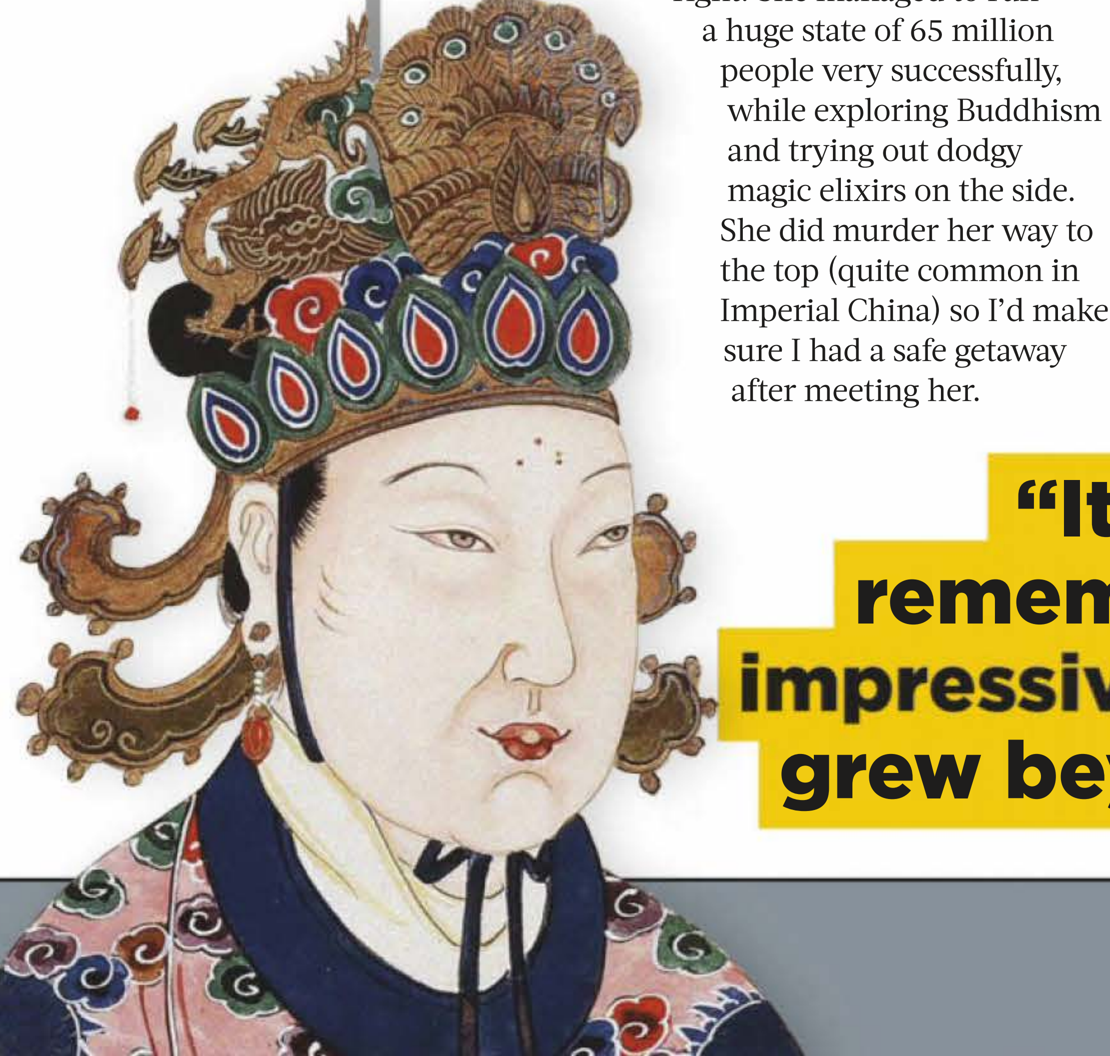
I'd like to meet Wu Zetian of the Chinese Tang Dynasty (AD 624–705), the only woman in history to become emperor of China in her own right. She managed to run a huge state of 65 million people very successfully, while exploring Buddhism and trying out dodgy magic elixirs on the side. She did murder her way to the top (quite common in Imperial China) so I'd make sure I had a safe getaway after meeting her.

Q If you could visit any historical landmark in the world tomorrow, where would you go?

I'd be fascinated to see the city of Machu Picchu in Peru. In Britain, South America is a sort of 'lost continent' in our imagination, and it's worth remembering quite how impressively civilisation grew in parts of the world outside the landmass of Eurasia. The Incas were destroyed by Spanish conquest, but it bears thinking about how advanced they had become in the centuries leading up their apocalypse.

Q Who is your unsung history hero?

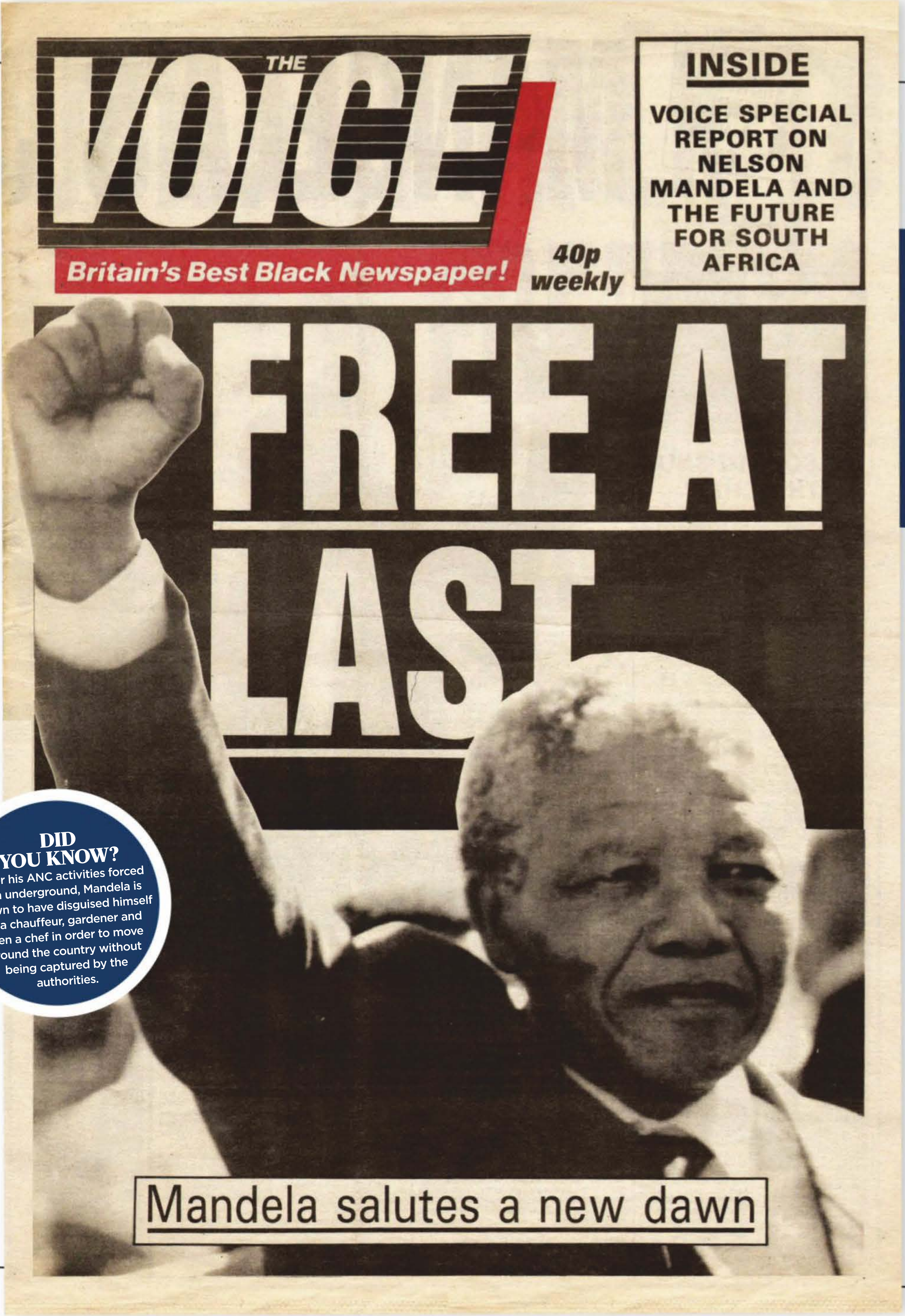
People should remember Claudette Colvin, born in 1939. She sat down on a bus in Montgomery, Alabama, in 1955, and was arrested for refusing to give up her seat for a white traveller. She did this several months before Rosa Parks's famous refusal to give up her seat. Colvin wasn't considered to have the right image to be publicised by the Civil Rights Movement; she was an unmarried teenager who was thought to be pregnant. But her actions were part of a wider, strategic movement and Colvin's role should be celebrated. Heroes like Parks matter, but they don't act just on their own. ⊙



Wu Zetian worked her way to power with the occasional murder – a not uncommon state of affairs in Imperial China

> **"It's worth remembering how impressively civilisation grew beyond Eurasia"**

KEITH BARNES X1, SHUTTERSTOCK X1



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INSIDE

VOICE SPECIAL REPORT ON NELSON MANDELA AND THE FUTURE FOR SOUTH AFRICA

FREE AT LAST

Mandela salutes a new dawn

DID YOU KNOW?

After his ANC activities forced him underground, Mandela is known to have disguised himself as a chauffeur, gardener and even a chef in order to move around the country without being captured by the authorities.

GETTY IMAGES X2

YESTERDAY'S PAPERS

Another timeless front page from the archives

Five days after his release from Victor Verster Prison, Mandela greeted reporters at his home in Soweto

MANDELA IS RELEASED FROM PRISON

Nelson Mandela, known as the Father of the Nation of South Africa, takes his first steps as a free man

Mandela casts his vote at the ballot box in South Africa's first democratic elections

After spending 27 years in prison, Nelson Mandela is freed on 11 February 1990. The leader of the movement to end apartheid (a government-enforced system of racial segregation) in South Africa gave a victory salute as he walked amongst the crowds, who were jubilant to see him released.

Born in 1918 into a royal house of the Thembu people in Umtata, South Africa, Mandela was the first of his family to be formally educated. He trained to be a lawyer and practised in Johannesburg. He became involved in anti-colonial and African nationalist politics in 1944, when he joined the African National Congress (ANC). This political party and black nationalist organisation spearheaded the fight to eliminate South Africa's official policies of racial separation and discrimination.

South Africa's all-white government had enforced apartheid since 1948. Non-white South Africans, who made up the majority of the population, had to live in separate areas to white people and contact between the two was restricted. Public facilities such as hospitals and even beaches were segregated.

In 1950, Mandela became president of the ANC's Youth League, breathing new life into the organisation. But his campaigning against the South African government and its policy of apartheid quickly gained the attention of the authorities. In 1956 Mandela, along with 155 others, was put on trial for treason. After four years in custody, Mandela was eventually acquitted, but the case was widely viewed as an attempt to harass anti-apartheid activists.

The ANC was officially banned in 1960, prompting members to abandon their non-violent stance. Mandela helped found the ANC's military wing, 'Umkhonto we Sizwe' (Spear of the Nation), and undertook guerrilla training. On 7 November 1962, after 17 months on the run, Mandela was sentenced to five years in prison for inciting strikes and leaving the country without a passport. He conducted his own defence during his trial, using his plea to make a political speech. Mandela's sentence was extended to life imprisonment in June 1964 when he, together with other members of the ANC, admitted trying to bring down the government – they narrowly missed receiving the death penalty.

LIFE AT ROBBEN ISLAND

For the first 18 years of his imprisonment, Mandela was held at the brutal Robben Island prison, where he had to carry out hard labour in a quarry and was kept in a small cell with no bed or plumbing. He was initially only allowed to write and receive one letter every six months – the majority of which went to his family. To those on the outside, Mandela was still the symbolic leader of the anti-apartheid movement; in prison, he led a civil disobedience movement to improve conditions within Robben Island itself. While imprisoned, he continued studying law and Afrikaans.

Calls for Mandela's liberation peaked in 1980 with the UN Security Council calling for his release, but despite international pressure the South African government refused. During his incarceration, Mandela rejected three offers to renounce his political beliefs in exchange for his release.

In 1982, Mandela was moved to the maximum-security Pollsmoor Prison, remaining there until 1988 when he began suffering from tuberculosis. He was then transferred to a private house within the lower-security Victor Verster Prison until his release.

The 30-year ban on the ANC was lifted by the new South African President FW de Klerk on 2 February 1990, which began the long process of ending apartheid. Nine days later, Mandela left prison a free man. On 10 May 1994, following the country's first democratic elections, Mandela became South Africa's first black president, bringing to an end more than three centuries of white rule.

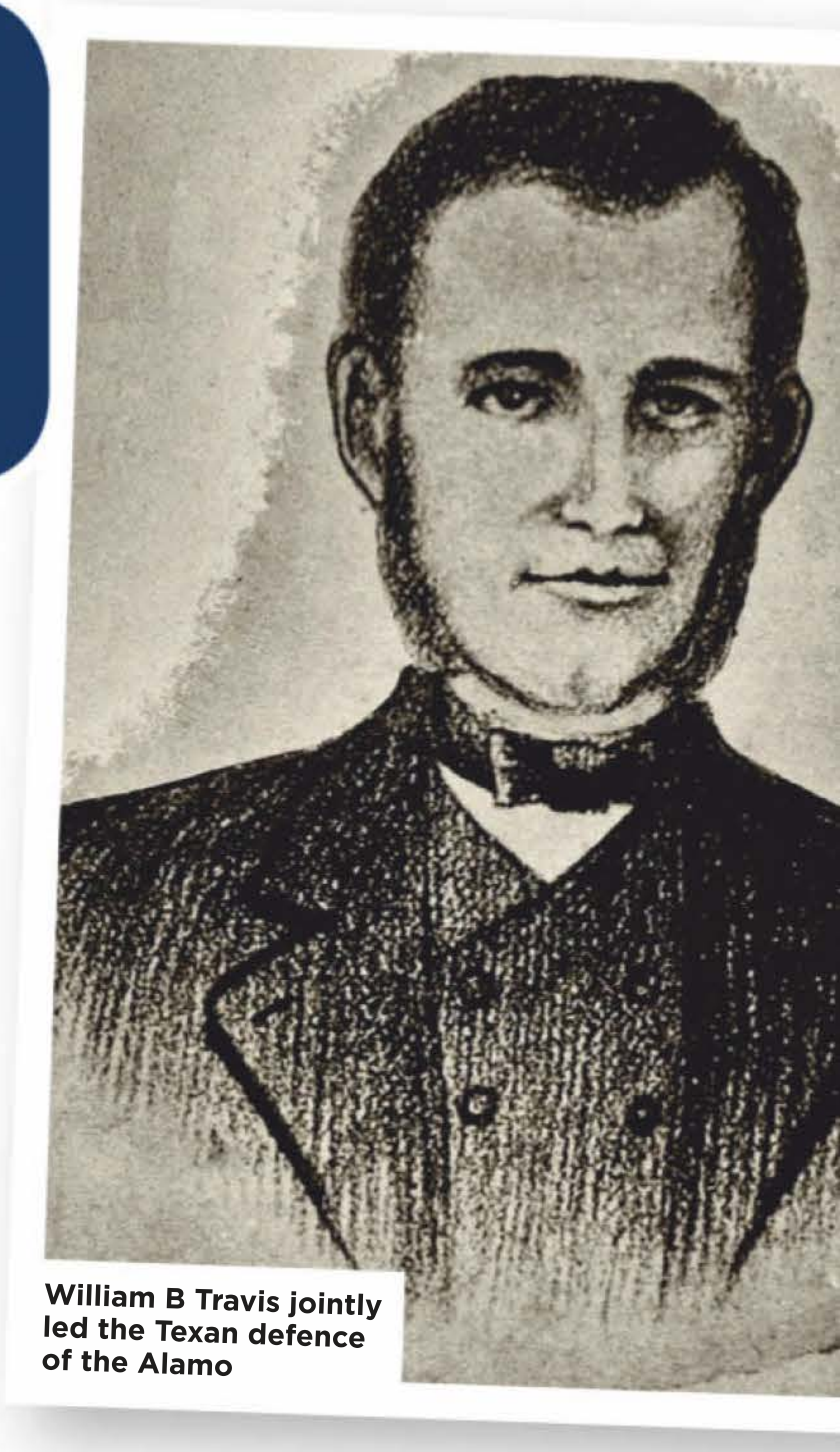
Sue MacGregor reunites key players involved in the secret talks to free Nelson Mandela for BBC Radio 4 *www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b00mjk5l*

THIS MONTH IN... 1836

Anniversaries that have made history

THE BATTLE OF THE ALAMO

The 13-day siege becomes immortalised as a symbol against oppression and the fight for independence



William B Travis jointly led the Texan defence of the Alamo

On 23 February 1836, fewer than 200 Texans stood their ground at the Alamo. They were up against a huge force of Mexican troops – estimated to be between 1,800 and 6,000 strong – but believed help was on the way. What followed was a 13-day siege and brutal battle that has since become legend. With barely any Texan survivors, those that fought there have since been glorified as folk heroes.

Texas had been part of the Republic of Mexico since 1821, and had become home to many US settlers moving west. After a decade of Mexican authorities imposing tougher controls over Mexican Texas, including increased enforcement of immigration laws and import tariffs, many American settlers rose up in rebellion. By October 1835, the Texas Revolution had begun.

By December 1835, the Texan rebels had driven Mexican forces out of Texas and many soldiers returned to their homes. One stronghold, however, would remain occupied by the rebels – the Alamo mission in San Antonio, an 18th-century outpost originally built for the conversion of Native Americans to Christianity during Spain's conquest of the area. It was a strategic location on the road into Texas which allowed early warning of Mexican advances.

The men based at the Alamo were predominately US volunteers and Tejanos (Hispanic descendants of Spanish settlers), with very few resources with which to launch a defence. A young soldier named William B Travis was sent to take command; he eventually formed a joint leadership with the famed pioneer James Bowie.

On 23 February 1836, Mexican General Antonio Santa Anna made the decision to reconquer Texas, and marched on San Antonio. The Alamo defenders weren't well-prepared, but refused to surrender and so began the siege. The Alamo men hoped to delay Santa Anna's troops and give the Texan rebels time to organise their forces. There was little fighting in the first 12 days beyond a few skirmishes that saw the Texans rush out of the mission, driving off some of the Mexicans who had been sheltering in nearby huts. Among the sharpshooters defending the Alamo was legendary US frontiersman Davy Crockett.

Realising their defences couldn't hold much longer against the much larger Mexican force, Travis sent couriers to slip behind enemy lines and call for reinforcements. On 2 March, as the battle raged on, some 150 miles away in Washington-on-the-Brazos a convention of American Texans declared Texas to be independent from Mexico. The provisional Texan government didn't have time to organise assistance, with just a few reinforcements coming to the Alamo's aid.

THE LAST STAND

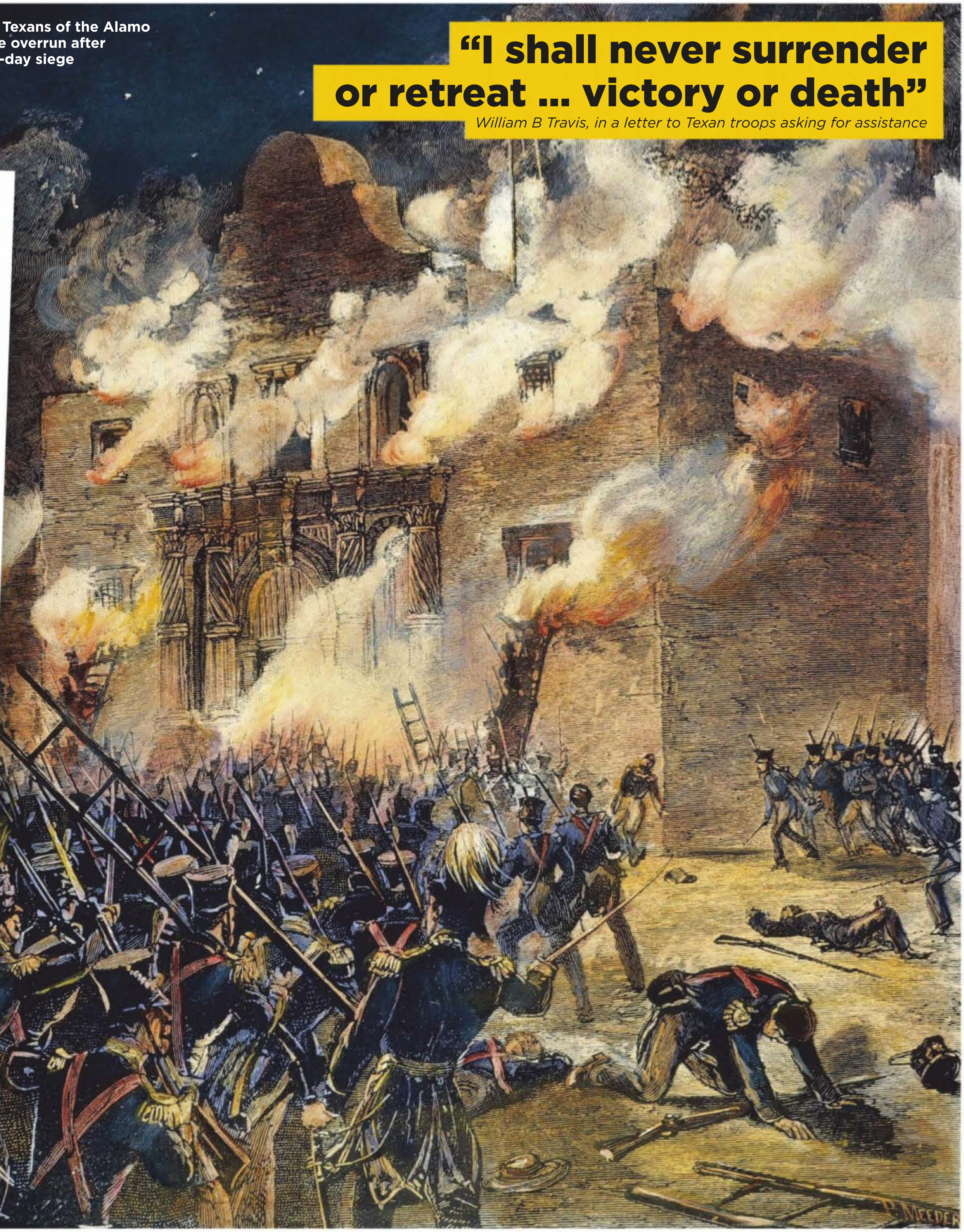
Santa Anna was growing impatient and more soldiers had been flocking to his side during the siege. Before dawn on 6 March, Mexican forces stormed the Alamo; Santa Anna ordered that no quarter was to be given.

The Texans valiantly fought back, desperately filling their cannon with anything they could find – nails, horseshoes and bits of iron. Those that escaped were cut down by cavalry waiting outside. Many Texans took refuge in the buildings of the mission, with the chapel the last to fall. In here hid families of the soldiers as well as slaves and servants who were spared by the Mexican troops.

All of the Alamo defenders fell in battle or were executed, save for one who persuaded the Mexicans that he was a prisoner-of-war. Of the non-combatant survivors, Susanna Dickinson, wife of one of the fallen soldiers, was sent with her baby to the camp of Texan General Samuel Houston to warn of the fate that awaited the rest of the Texan rebels if they did not surrender.

The devastating defeat horrified Texans, but it inspired in them a new sense of determination; on 21 April, Houston led the charge at the Battle of Jacinto crying "Remember the Alamo!" ⊙

ALAMY X1, TOPFOTO X1



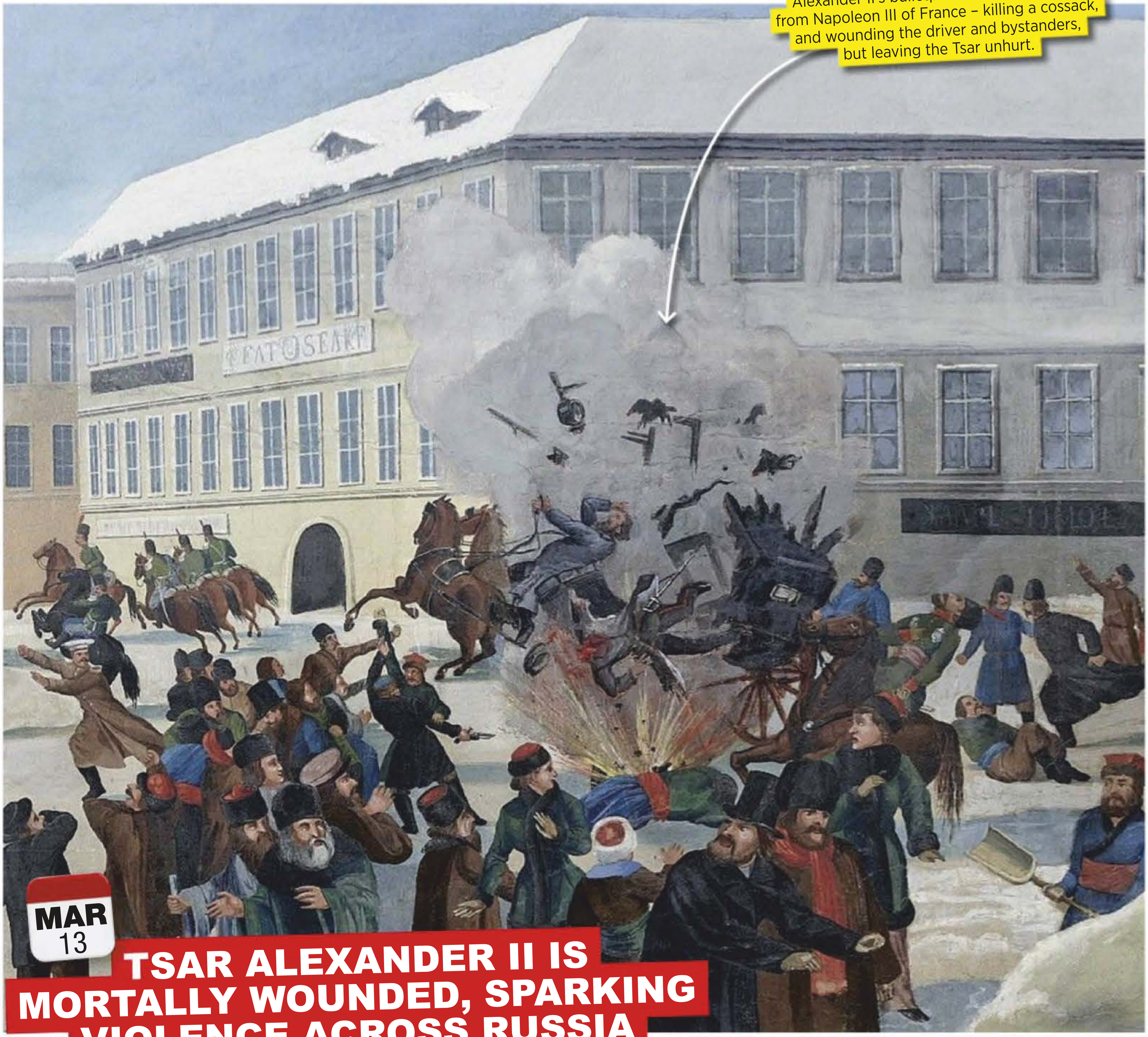
The Texans of the Alamo were overrun after a 13-day siege

"I shall never surrender or retreat … victory or death"

William B Travis, in a letter to Texan troops asking for assistance

YEAR IN FOCUS 1881

Snapshots of the world from one year in the past



The first bomb was thrown under Alexander II's bulletproof carriage – a gift from Napoleon III of France – killing a cossack, and wounding the driver and bystanders, but leaving the Tsar unhurt.

MAR 13

TSAR ALEXANDER II IS MORTALLY WOUNDED, SPARKING VIOLENCE ACROSS RUSSIA

On the streets of Saint Petersburg, on 13 March, Tsar Alexander II of Russia is killed by a bomb. It was thrown by a member of People's Will, a terrorist revolutionary group dedicated to overthrowing Russia's autocratic rule. A bomb was thrown under the Tsar's carriage and he emerged to survey the damage. A second assassin lay in wait, throwing a bomb at the Tsar's feet and mortally wounding him. Many onlookers who had rushed to the Tsar's aid after the first attack were also severely wounded.

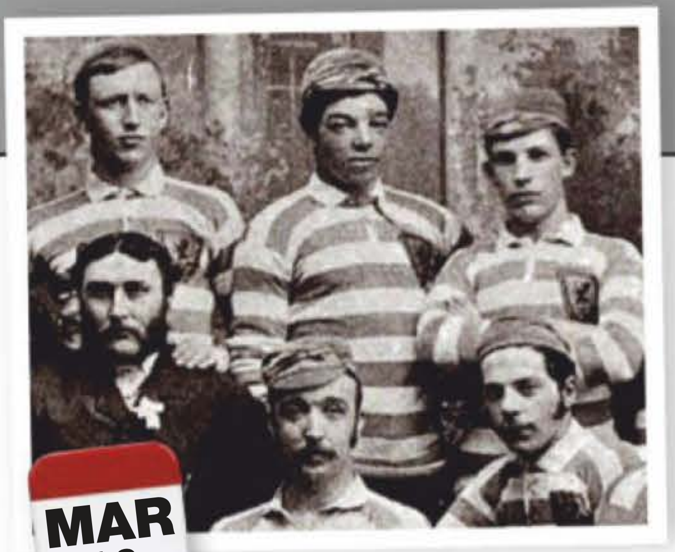
Alexander II's death saw a wave of anti-Jewish violence sweep across Russia, as false rumours spread about the murderers' identities, culminating in pogroms (riots aimed at an ethnic group). Compared to his predecessors, Alexander II had been a liberal emperor, leaning towards reform. In 1861, he enacted the Edict of Emancipation – freeing 23 million people from serfdom. His son and successor, Alexander III, did not remain on the same path: he brought in a wave of repressive laws and rejected the 'Loris-Milikov constitution' – signed by Alexander II on the day of his death. This would have been a small step towards a constitutional monarchy, allowing a small number of elected representatives in legislative commissions.

ALAMY X2, GETTY IMAGES X3, TOPFOTO X1

AUG
03

PEACE… FOR NOW

After just under a year of fighting, 3 August sees an uneasy peace brokered between Britain and the Boers of the South African Republic, an area in the northeast of what is now South Africa. Britain had annexed the region in 1877, leading to frequent clashes between the local Boer settlers (South Africans of Dutch, German, or Huguenot descent) and British troops – clashes that spilled into war by 1880. The First Boer War culminated in the Battle of Majuba Hill in February 1881, a staggering defeat for Britain that led to the signing of a peace treaty six months later in Pretoria (immortalised in bronze below). The South African Republic was given independence over its own affairs, but Britain retained control over the republic's foreign policies. The simmering resentment that this spawned had boiled over into conflict again by the end of the century.



MAR
12

FOOTBALL BEGINS THE ROAD TO DIVERSITY

When Andrew Watson stepped out onto the football pitch on 12 March, making his debut for Scotland, he became the world's first black association football player to play at international level. Born in British Guiana in 1857 to a Scottish father and Guianese mother, Watson (*back row, centre*) moved to Britain in 1869. He studied at the University of Glasgow where he began playing for Scotland's most successful football team at the time, Queen's Park. He would go on to represent Scotland three times, becoming the first black footballer to captain an international team and win a major competition: the Scottish Cup.

SEP
26

GODALMING HAS ITS LIGHT BULB MOMENT

On 26 September, Godalming in Surrey becomes the first town in the world to have a public electricity supply. Some privileged homes and businesses had been enjoying living in electric light for a year, but this was the first time that both streetlighting and indoor electricity were offered to the public. A waterwheel was used to power the town, however the experiment wasn't a success for long; there wasn't enough uptake to cover the costs, and the project was abandoned. But it helped spark a wider trend: by the beginning of the 20th century, public electricity supplies were being rolled out across the country.

ALSO IN 1881…

1 JANUARY

Kansas becomes the first state in the United States to prohibit all alcoholic beverages.

1 MARCH

The *SS Servia* is launched. As the first transatlantic steamer built of steel and with electric lighting, it was considered the first modern ocean liner.

7 JULY

The first installment of Italian writer Carlo Collodi's *The Adventures of Pinocchio* – the tale of a puppet who becomes a real boy – is published in *Giornale per i bambini*, a children's magazine.

26 OCTOBER

The most famous gunfight of the American Old West takes place at the OK Corral in Tombstone, Arizona, between lawmen and outlaws. The 30-second shootout saw the deaths of three outlaws.

3 NOVEMBER

The last major rebellion of the indigenous Mapuche peoples in Chile after the Republic of Chile occupied their lands. Many of the Mapuche were displaced or succumbed to disease and famine.

DIED: 14 JUL 1881

BILLY THE KID

After two years on the run, American outlaw Billy the Kid is shot dead by Sheriff Pat Garrett at the age of 21. By the time of his death, Billy – real name Henry McCarty – had been responsible for at least nine deaths and had become the most wanted man in the West after escaping prison the previous year.

BORN: 12 FEB 1881

ANNA PAVLOVA

Born in St Petersburg, Russian prima ballerina Anna Pavlova was initially rejected from the Imperial Ballet School due to being a sickly child. Finally accepted at the age of ten, she became a global icon who toured worldwide; the famous dance 'The Dying Swan' was choreographed especially for her.

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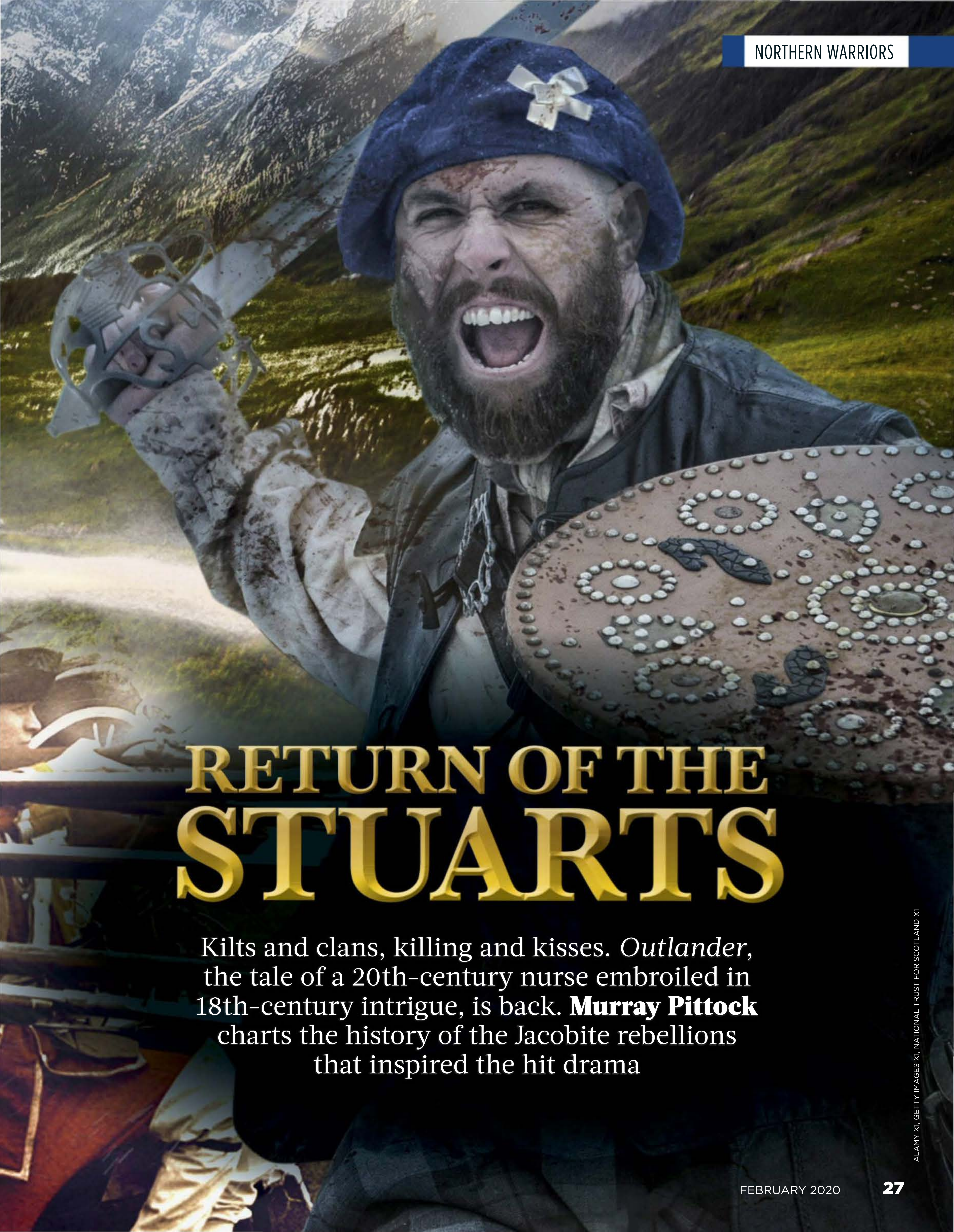
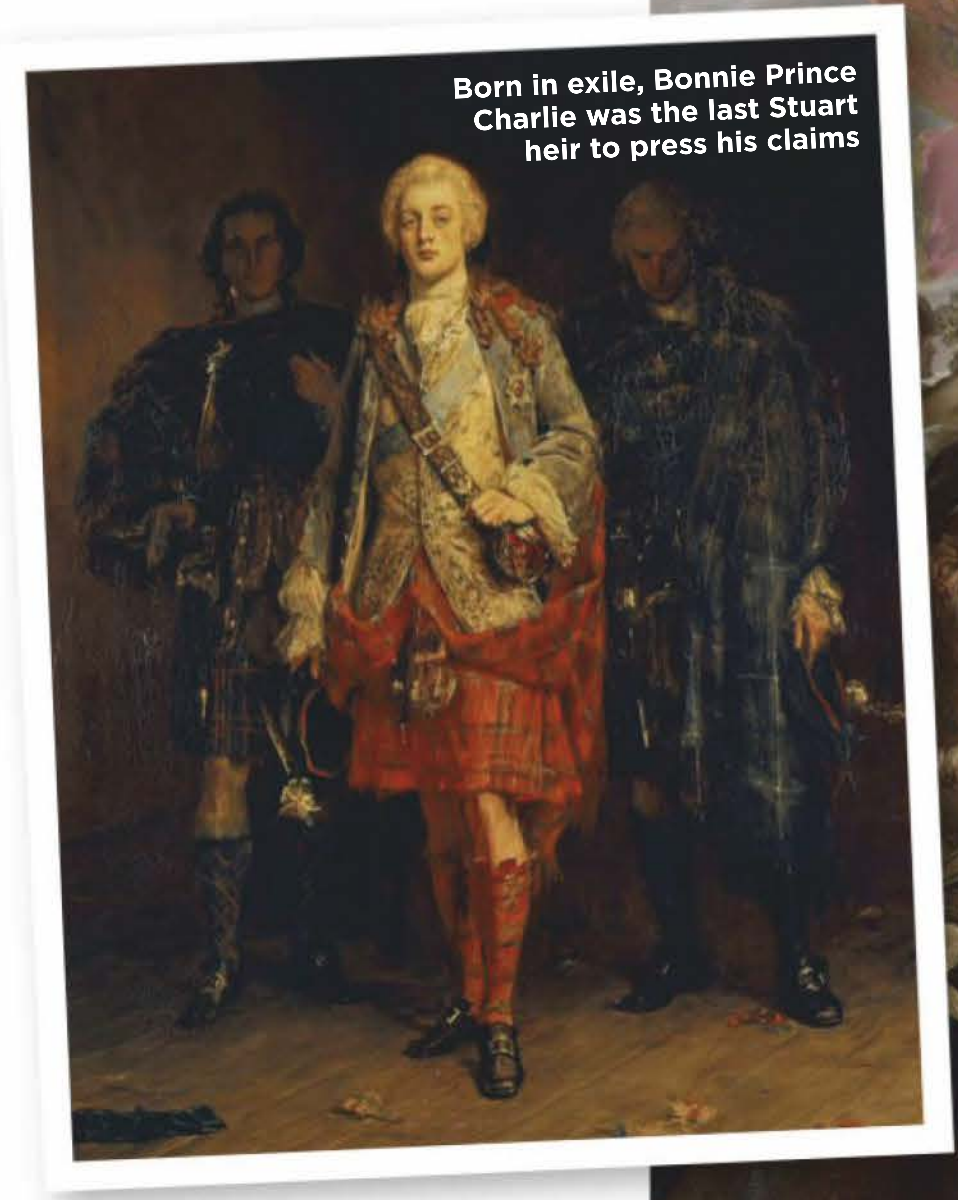
Supporters backing the House of Stuart clashed with government soldiers in a series of uprisings between 1689 and 1746 – rebellions now immortalised as the Jacobite Risings



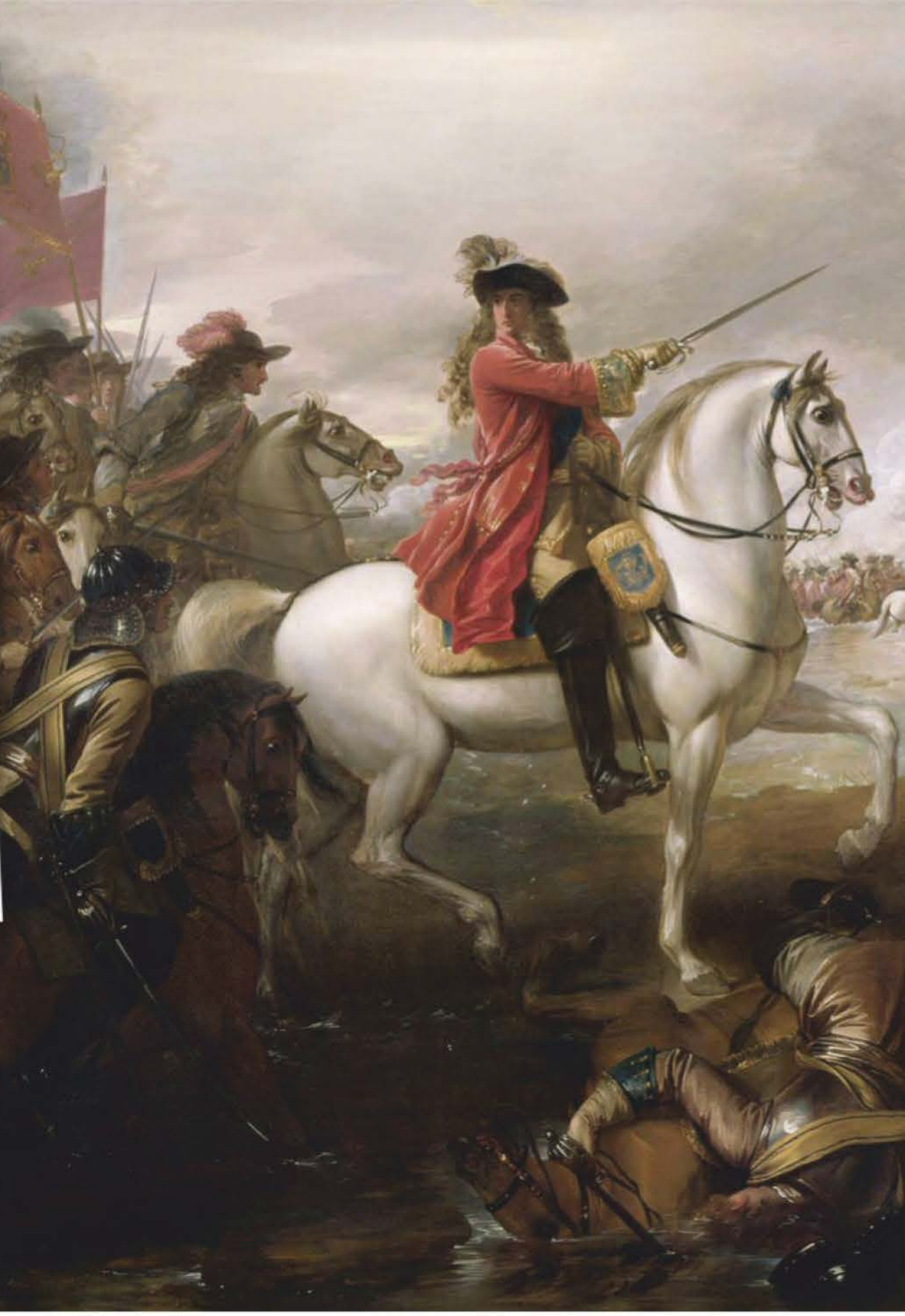
RETURN OF THE STUARTS

Kilts and clans, killing and kisses. *Outlander*, the tale of a 20th-century nurse embroiled in 18th-century intrigue, is back. **Murray Pittock** charts the history of the Jacobite rebellions that inspired the hit drama

ALAMY X1, GETTY IMAGES X1, NATIONAL TRUST FOR SCOTLAND X1



Born in exile, Bonnie Prince Charlie was the last Stuart heir to press his claims



At dawn on 21 September 1745, General Sir John Cope awaited battle. His forces, deployed on open land a few miles east of Edinburgh, were disciplined and well-organised professional soldiers. By contrast, his foes he considered to be little better than savages, a rabble that had rallied to the Jacobite cause of Charles Edward Stuart, Bonnie Prince Charlie.

But Cope had miscalculated. When the Jacobites attacked, they were fierce and focused. Opening fire on Cope's cavalry as they advanced, they then smashed into his infantry. It was an overwhelming and dynamic attack. The Battle of Prestonpans, the first significant engagement of the 1745 Jacobite Rising, was essentially over inside 15 minutes.

"Every Front Man covered his Fellowes… though their Motion was very quick, it was Uniform and Orderly," wrote a British officer of his Jacobite foes. Somewhere between 300 and 500 British troops lost their lives that day, Cope's career as a general lay in tatters and the British Army learnt a bitter lesson: that the way it deployed its musket-bearing infantrymen was utterly inadequate.

But how and why did Charles, a man born in exile in Rome, come to be fighting on Scottish soil? The answer lies in a dynastic struggle that lasted from 1688 to 1759, and began with the so-called Glorious Revolution of 1688, when Charles's grandfather, King James VII of Scotland and II of England and Ireland (1633-1701), was driven from power, to be succeeded by his son-in-law, William III of Orange (1650-1702), and his own daughter, Mary II (1662-94).

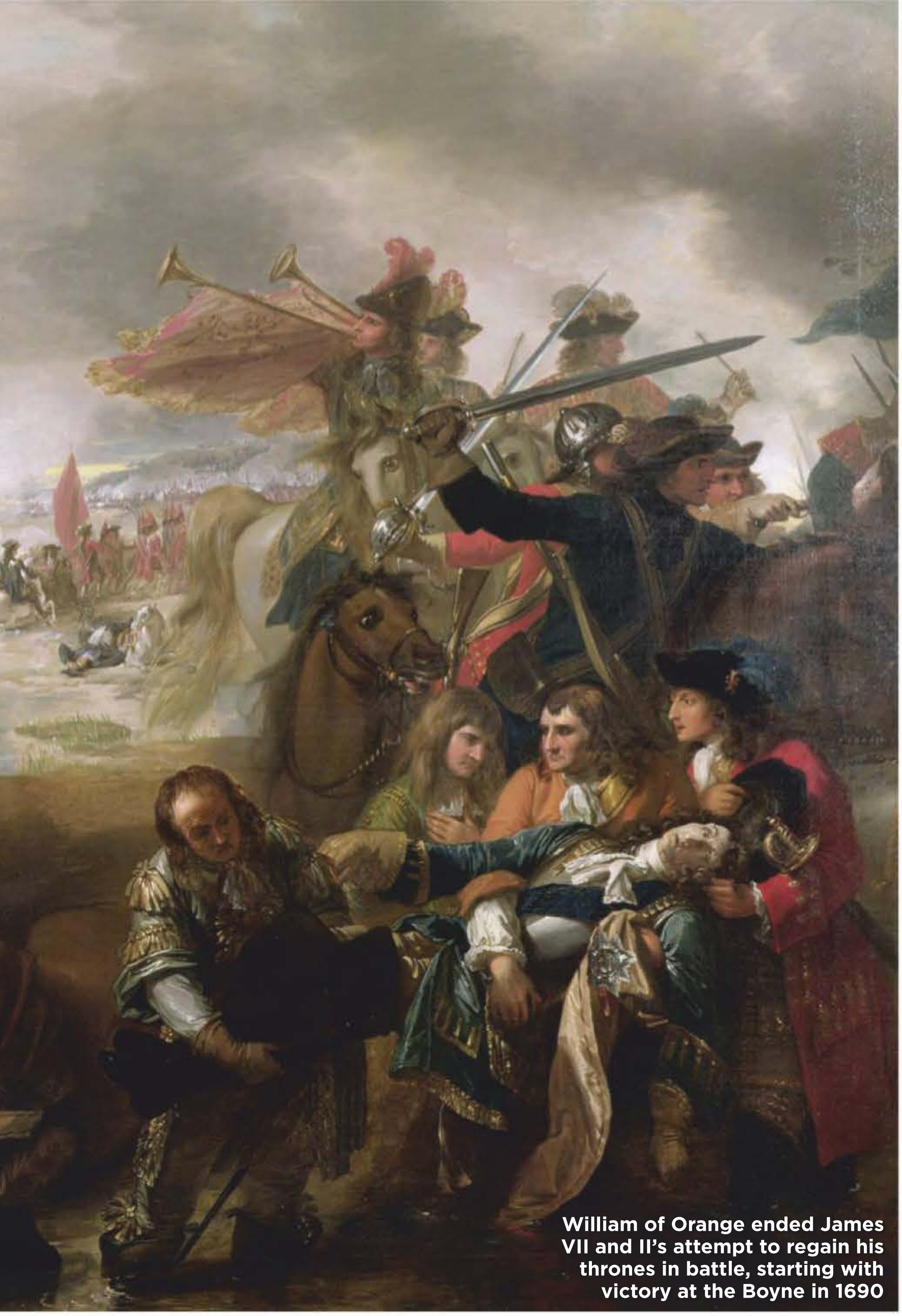
"The dynastic struggle begins with the so-called Glorious Revolution"

While few now remember the precise details of the bitter contest, its iconography – the idea of a Stuart royals crossing the sea to reclaim the throne amidst splendid Highlands scenery – has proven irresistible. *Outlander*, the timeslip TV series based on Diana Gabaldon's best-selling novels, is hardly the first drama to make merry with this imagery. More profoundly, echoes of the Jacobite struggle can still be detected in contemporary Britain – in the way, for example, that the Orange Order in Northern Ireland and Scotland celebrates the victory of William of Orange's Anglo-Dutch forces over James's Irish army at the Boyne in 1690.

BACKDROP TO CONFLICT

Just five years previously, the idea of such a clash would have seemed fantastical. When James succeeded to the thrones of England, Scotland and Ireland in 1685 on the death of his brother – Charles II, who had no

ROYAL COLLECTION TRUST © HER MAJESTY QUEEN ELIZABETH II, 2020/BRIDGEMAN IMAGES X1, BRIDGEMAN IMAGES X1



William of Orange ended James VII and II's attempt to regain his thrones in battle, starting with victory at the Boyne in 1690

legitimate children – he was largely accepted in the three kingdoms. And while his Catholicism made him a figure of suspicion to Protestants, it wasn't until the birth of his son, also named James, that the threat of a Catholic dynasty led the so-called 'Immortal Seven' (three earls, a viscount, a bishop and two other noblemen) to invite the Protestant William to land with an army – which he did. James, deeply affected by betrayals from his own officers and the memory of the fate of his executed father, Charles I, capitulated and fled.

William's 'Glorious Revolution', so-called because in England at least it was bloodless, ushered in a new political settlement. A multi-kingdom monarchy, with parliaments in Scotland and Ireland, became far more centralised.

Other changes occurred too. James's rapprochement with France was replaced by hostility. In 1689, the Council of Wales and the Marches (a regional administrative body based in Ludlow Castle) was abolished. In 1701, Catholic heirs were excluded from the throne in the Act of Settlement. In 1707, Scotland's refusal to recognise this act, and its ambition to have its own colonies, was ended by Union with England. As English writer Daniel Defoe put it in celebration of parliamentary sovereignty's extension over Great Britain as a whole, "In this Union are Lands and People added to the English Empire."

This burgeoning new political system didn't come into being without opposition, especially in Scotland and Ireland, nations losing autonomy through these developments. In

WHO'S WHO?

FOR THE CROWN

James VII of Scotland and II of England
Stuart king of England, Scotland and Ireland until 1688, when he was overthrown by William of Orange.

William III (of Orange) and Mary II
Joint monarchs of England, Scotland and Ireland from 1689, following the so-called Glorious Revolution.

Queen Anne
The last Stuart monarch and, after 1707, the first queen of the 'united kingdoms'.

George I
After Anne dies childless, George (elector of Hanover, a state centred on a city in north Germany) becomes the first Hanoverian king of Great Britain and Ireland.

George II
Second Hanoverian king of Great Britain and Ireland.

Prince William Augustus, Duke of Cumberland
Third son of George II. Commander of the British troops at the Battle of Culloden.

FOR THE JACOBITES

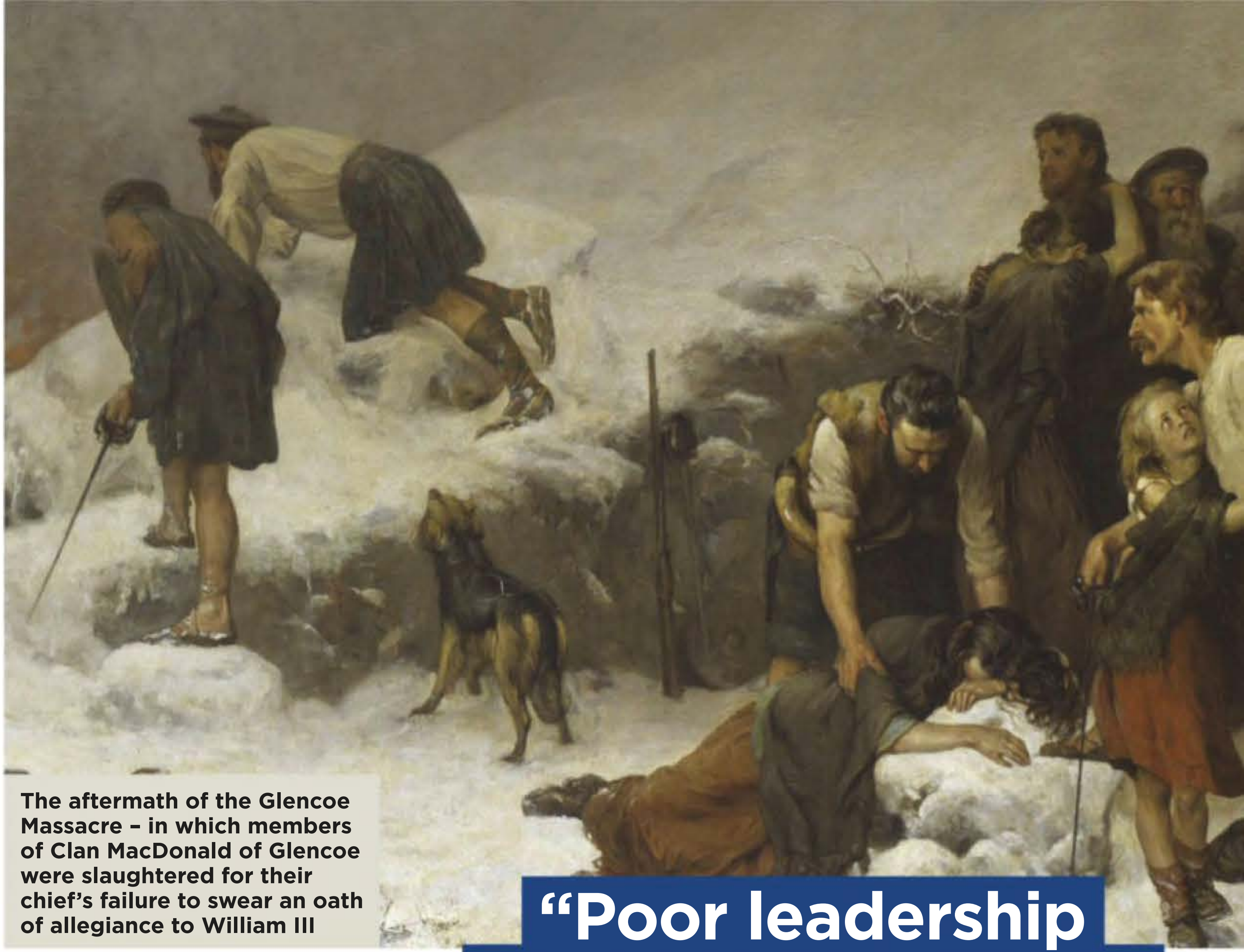
James Francis Edward Stuart (James 'VIII and III')
Son of the deposed James VII and II and first focus of the Jacobite cause to restore the Stuart dynasty to the throne.

Charles Edward Stuart (Bonnie Prince Charlie)
Grandson of King James VII and II, he returned to Britain in 1745 to try and overthrow George II. Defeated at Culloden and fled into exile.

John Graham, Viscount Dundee
Scottish nobleman, best known for leading the Jacobite cause in the first uprising of 1689.

John Erskine, Earl of Mar
Scottish noble and key figure in unifying Scotland and England in 1707, but was exiled to France after leading the doomed Jacobite Rising of 1715. Nicknamed 'Bobbing John' for his frequently shifting political allegiances.

Lord George Murray
One of Bonnie Prince Charlie's commanders during the ill-fated 1745 uprising. Tried to reorganise the remnants of the Jacobite army after Culloden but was forced to flee Scotland.



The aftermath of the Glencoe Massacre – in which members of Clan MacDonald of Glencoe were slaughtered for their chief's failure to swear an oath of allegiance to William III

Scotland, second-in-command of the Scottish army, John Graham, Viscount Dundee launched an armed rising in support of James. Dundee's men defeated the Scottish forces loyal to William at Killiecrankie on 27 July 1689, but Dundee was killed in the action. The Jacobites continued to fight until 1691, and on and off till 1694, when their last stronghold, the Bass Rock, surrendered. The notorious Massacre of Glencoe in 1692 was an attempt, authorised by William's Presbyterian supporters in Scotland, to demoralise a key Jacobite-supporting area.

In Ireland, Richard Talbot, the Earl of Tyrconnell and James's loyal lord deputy, had an army of 30,000 men. When James landed in Ireland from France in March 1689, he received Tyrconnell's full support. Full-scale war erupted across the island, and it took William's victories at the Boyne in 1690, and at Aughrim and Limerick (both in 1691) to end the conflict, with huge loss of life on both sides. Indeed, so strong were the Jacobite forces in defeat that 12,000 were allowed to leave Limerick for France, where they formed the nucleus of the Irish Brigade, which endured as a distinct part of the French Royal Army – and one committed to restoring the Stuart monarchy and native Irish rights – until 1791.

In Scotland, ancestral home of the Stuarts, opposition to William and Mary, and then Anne (Mary's sister, who reigned from 1702-14), proved even more stubborn, in part because the 1707 Acts of Union was so unpopular with Scots. When Anne died childless and George I (1660-1727, the Hanover-born great-grandson of James VI and I) became King of Great Britain, matters came to a head with the Jacobite Rising of 1715.

MAR'S LAMENT

Unlike 1708, when James 'VIII', the son of James VII and II, was brought within sight of Scotland but didn't land, this was a rebellion on a huge scale. More than 20,000 Scots (about 70 per cent of the country's potential military strength) took up arms under John Erskine, Earl of Mar. In addition, 1,100 northern English Catholics under Thomas Foster MP and the Earl of Derwentwater also rebelled.

> "Poor leadership and lack of direction led to the failure of the 1715 rising"

Whether James 'VIII and III' (whose father died in 1701) landed or not, Mar intended to march south and break the Union. The fact that Mar had himself been instrumental in getting the Union passed, which he publicly admitted and regretted, show how this was a rebellion that was about more than support for the Stuart pretender, but about Scotland's relationship with England.

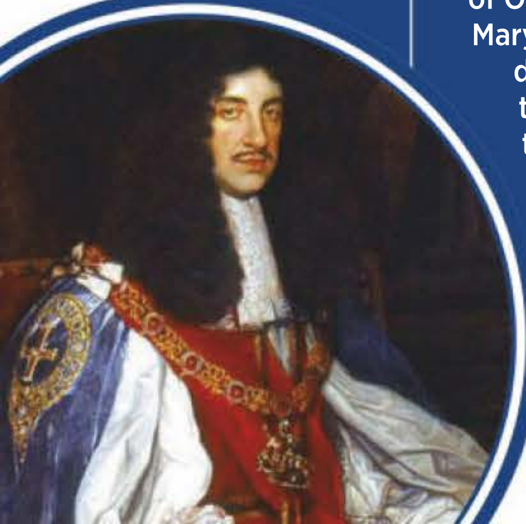
Poor leadership and lack of strategic direction led to the failure of this most

ALAMY X3, BRIDGEMAN IMAGES X1, GETTY IMAGES X8

TIMELINE

1685

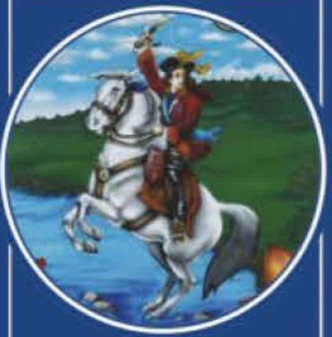
▼ Charles II dies, to be succeeded by James VII of Scotland, and II of England and Ireland.



1688

The birth of James's son and Protestant fears over a Catholic dynasty lead to the so-called Glorious Revolution. William of Orange and Mary, James's daughter, take power the following year.

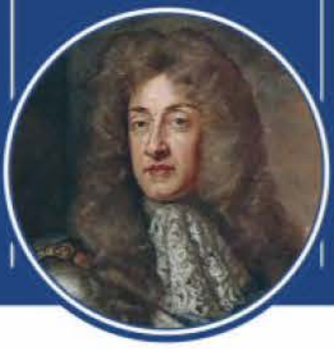
1689



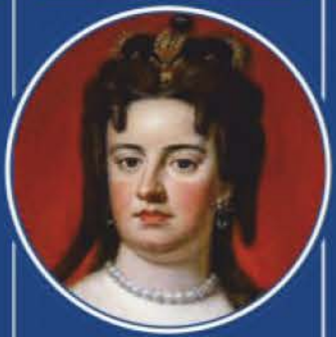
▲ James lands in Ireland, the beginning of military action to reclaim the throne, but is defeated at the Boyne in 1690.

1701

▼ James II dies. His claim to three thrones is taken up by his son James 'VIII' of Scotland, and 'III' of England and Ireland.



1702



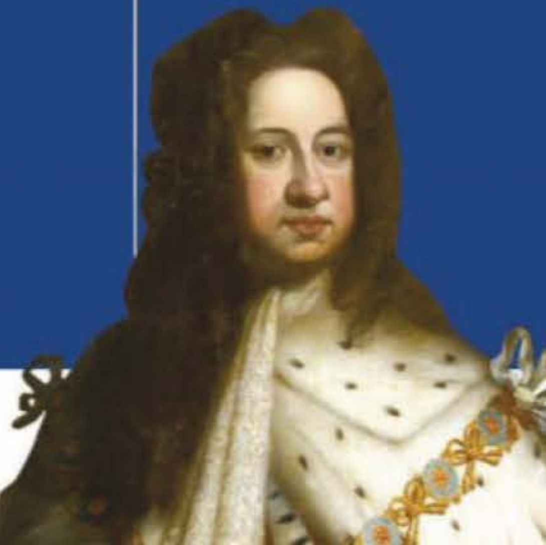
▲ Anne, Mary's sister, becomes Queen of England, Scotland and Ireland.

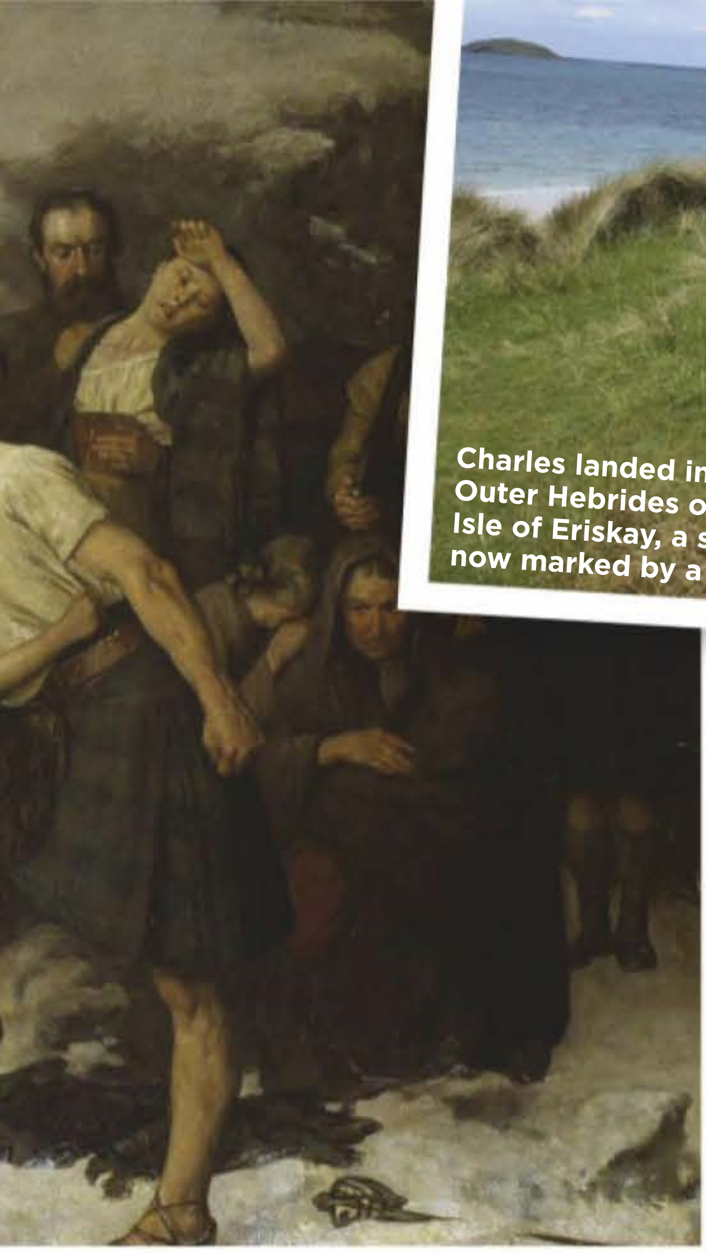
1707

The Acts of Union combine England and Scotland into "One Kingdom by the Name of Great Britain".

1714

▼ George I becomes King of Great Britain. He is the first British monarch of the House of Hanover.





Charles landed in the Outer Hebrides on the Isle of Eriskay, a spot now marked by a cairn

dangerous of British Jacobite risings as the indecisive battle of Sheriffmuir, fought by the northern Jacobite army, was followed by the southern Jacobite force's capitulation at Preston in late 1715. A subsequent rising in 1719 (which landed 400 Spanish troops in Scotland) and a plot in 1722-23 were snuffed out, and as the years wore on, it looked less and less likely that a Jacobite Rising would succeed, or even gather any real momentum.

That changed in part because of instability caused by the War of the Austrian Succession of 1740-48, rooted in a dispute over the Hapsburg succession, which pitted Europe's powers against each other in shifting alliances, and in which Britain moved to protect Hanover by deploying troops. It also changed because of the adventurous and daring personality of the eldest son of James 'VIII and III', Charles Edward Stuart – a young man in a hurry.

PRINCELY PROMISE

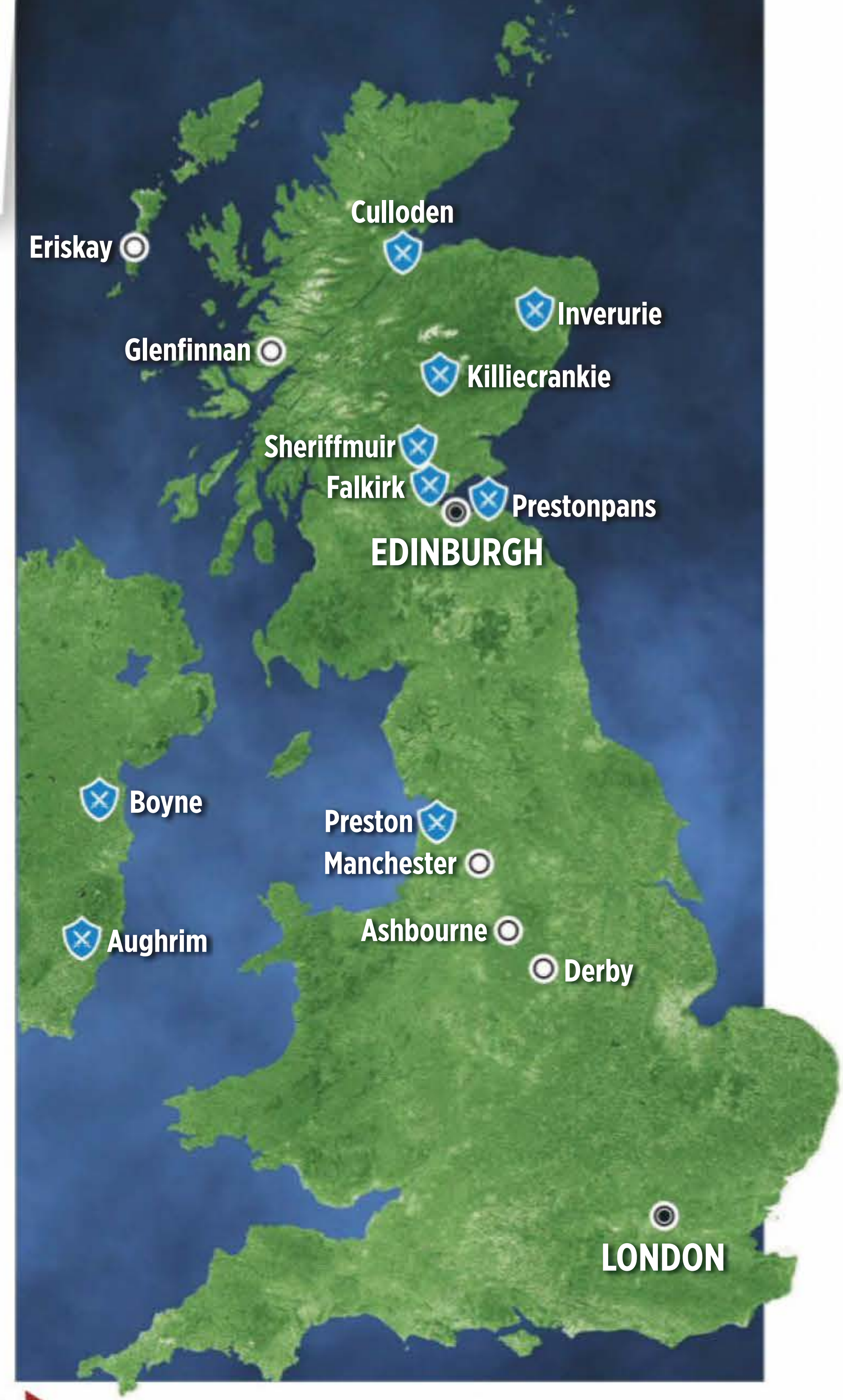
By December 1743, France was poised to invade Britain. On 23 December, James declared Charles to be Prince Regent and stated with regard to Scotland: "We see a Nation always famous for valour, and highly esteemed… reduced to the Condition of a Province, under the specious Pretence of an Union with a more powerful Neighbour." While bad weather led to the French calling off their attack and allowed the British authorities to make preparations to resist, Charles remained impatient for action.

Likely with the tacit consent of France in a deniable special operation, Charles raised finance to take two ships to Scotland together with money, guns and some hundreds of Irish Brigade troops. On 23 July 1745, despite the Royal Navy seeing off one of his ships, which had been carrying guns and troops, Charles made landfall on Eriskay with a handful of men. In France, George Keith, last Earl Marischal of Scotland, appealed urgently for 10,000 men and arms for 30,000. But

Continues on p34

ON THE MOVE

Key locations in the Jacobite Uprisings



1715

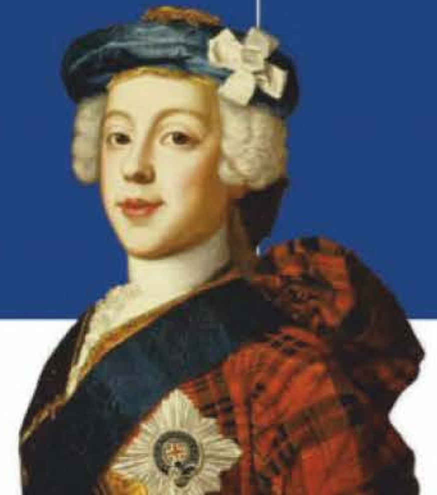
With French support, James tries to seize the throne, but by early 1716 he was defeated. He would try again in 1719.

1740

▲ The War of the Austrian Succession breaks out, destabilising the geopolitical situation in Europe.

1745

▼ After the French postpone invasion plans, Bonnie Prince Charlie – son of James 'VIII and III' – lands and rallies Jacobite forces.



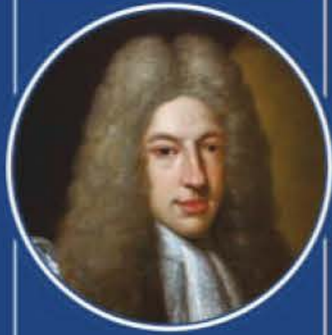
1746

The Jacobites are decisively defeated at the Battle of Culloden. Many Jacobite leaders are executed and Charles goes into exile once more.

1759

Jacobites support a planned French invasion of Britain, during the Seven Years' War, but the invasion is never launched.

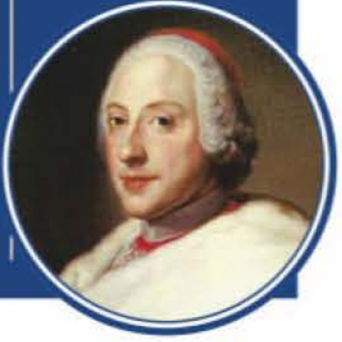
1766



▲ James 'VIII and III' dies in Rome.

1788

▼ Bonnie Prince Charlie dies in Rome. His brother Henry, a cardinal, becomes the final Jacobite heir, but never presses his claim.

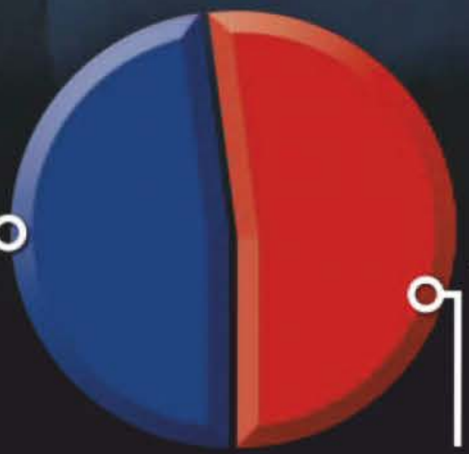


WHAT DID THE JACOBITES WANT?

One of the key weaknesses of the Jacobite cause lay in its divisions. English Jacobitism was built on conservative attitudes and an assortment of grievances. These included the breach of hereditary right and the fear that changing the succession could be extended to other areas of rights of inheritance (as it was in the case of Catholics, who could be disinherited in certain circumstances); a dislike of foreigners (Dutch and Germans); a dislike of unnecessary foreign wars and the need to defend Hanover; the growth of the national debt after 1690; the exclusion of the Tory Party from power between 1714 and 1760; and the replacement of High Anglicanism by a more moderate Protestantism.

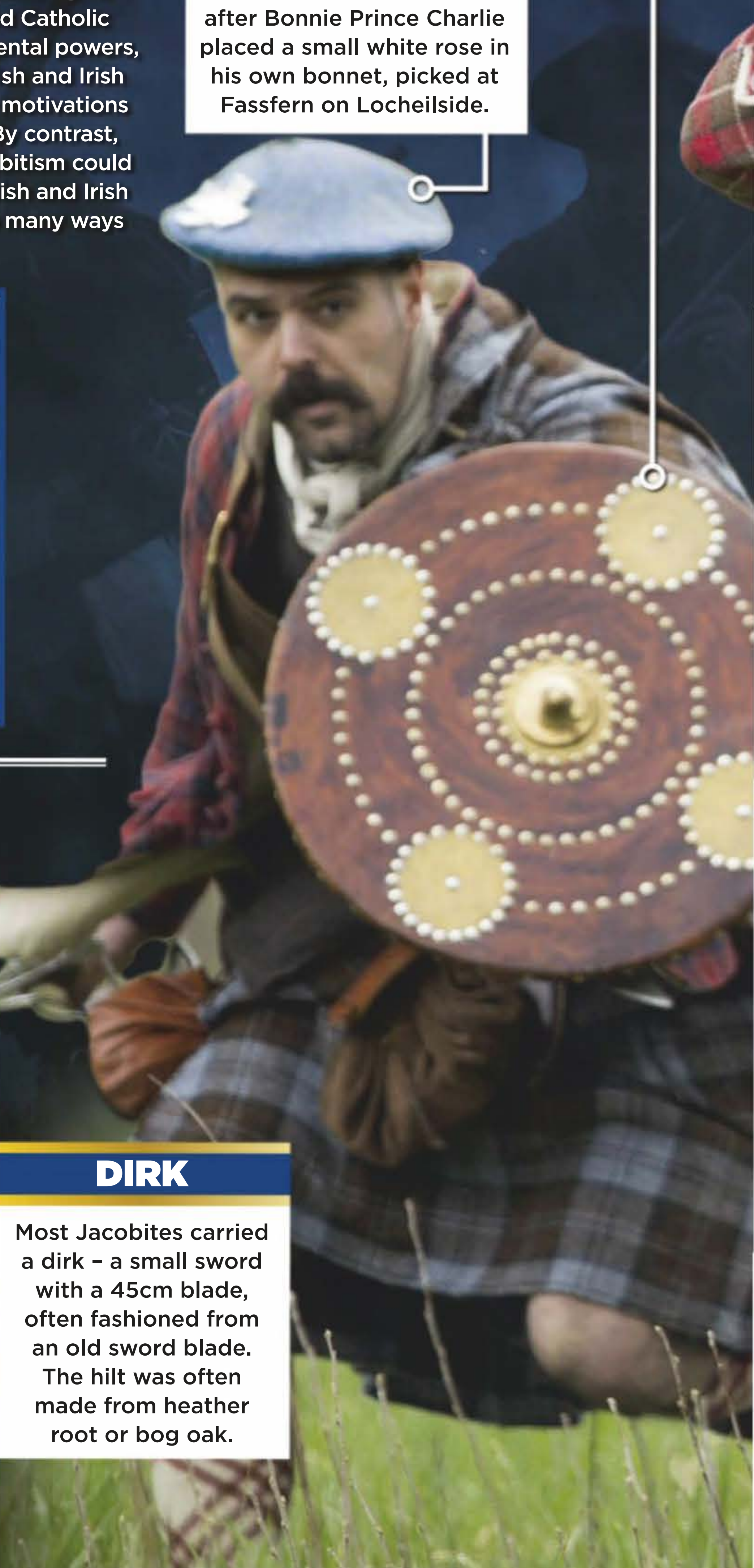
For Scottish Jacobites, the return of the native dynasty was linked to the end of the Union and the return of a looser confederal Britain ruled by a single sovereign, unified by an Episcopal/Anglican church structure and an end to Presbyterianism. Irish Jacobites wanted a confederal kingdom, a Catholic king, the restoration of Irish Catholic rights and relief from sectarian laws and Catholic toleration, backed by the continental powers, notably France and Spain. Scottish and Irish Jacobitism were simpler in their motivations and in key aspects compatible. By contrast, the complexities of English Jacobitism could not be easily reconciled to Scottish and Irish Jacobitism – and yet it was in so many ways the most necessary for success.

NOT ALL JACOBITES WHO FOUGHT AT CULLODEN WERE HIGHLANDERS



Only 49.8 per cent were Highlanders

The remainder were lowlanders, Franco-Irish and a regiment of Englishmen



TARGE

The circular wooden shield – known as a targe – was covered with stout animal hide on both sides and often decorated with clan-related Celtic ornamentation.

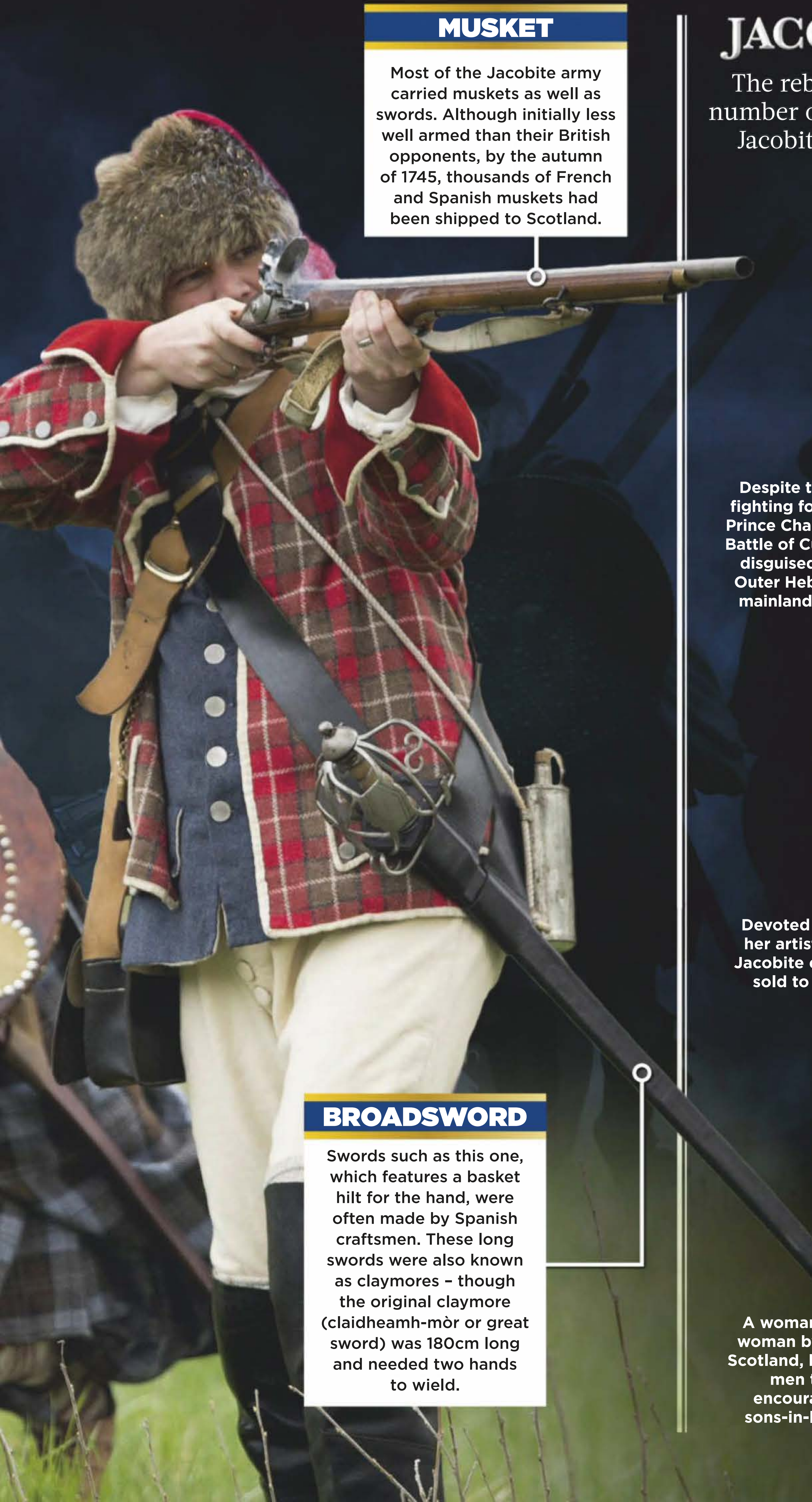
WHITE COCKADE

The Jacobite tradition of pinning a white cockade to a blue knitted bonnet is said to have started after Bonnie Prince Charlie placed a small white rose in his own bonnet, picked at Fassfern on Locheilside.

DIRK

Most Jacobites carried a dirk – a small sword with a 45cm blade, often fashioned from an old sword blade. The hilt was often made from heather root or bog oak.

ALAMY X4, GETTY IMAGES X1



MUSKET

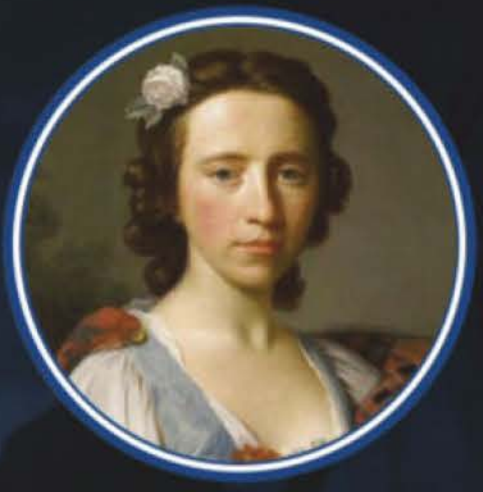
Most of the Jacobite army carried muskets as well as swords. Although initially less well armed than their British opponents, by the autumn of 1745, thousands of French and Spanish muskets had been shipped to Scotland.

BROADSWORD

Swords such as this one, which features a basket hilt for the hand, were often made by Spanish craftsmen. These long swords were also known as claymores – though the original claymore (claidheamh-mòr or great sword) was 180cm long and needed two hands to wield.

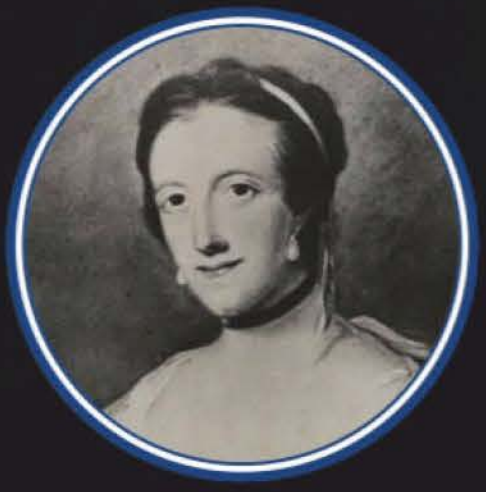
JACOBITE WOMEN

The rebellions of 1715 and 1745 saw a number of women ally themselves to the Jacobite cause. Here are just three…



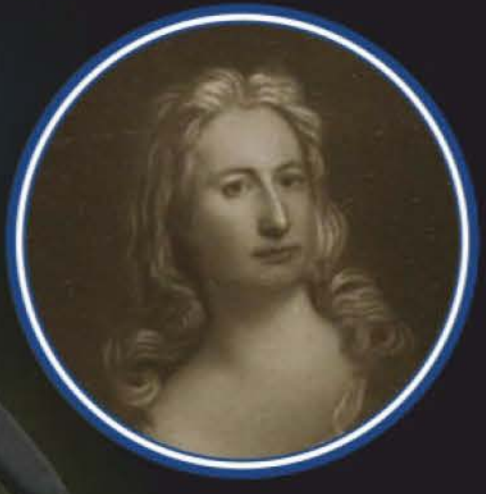
FLORA MACDONALD

Despite the fact that her stepfather and fiancé were fighting for the Hanoverian army, Flora helped Bonnie Prince Charlie escape from Scotland after defeat at the Battle of Culloden. She travelled with Charles, who was disguised as an Irish spinning maid, from Uist in the Outer Hebrides to Portree on the Isle of Skye, via the mainland. He eventually secured passage to France.



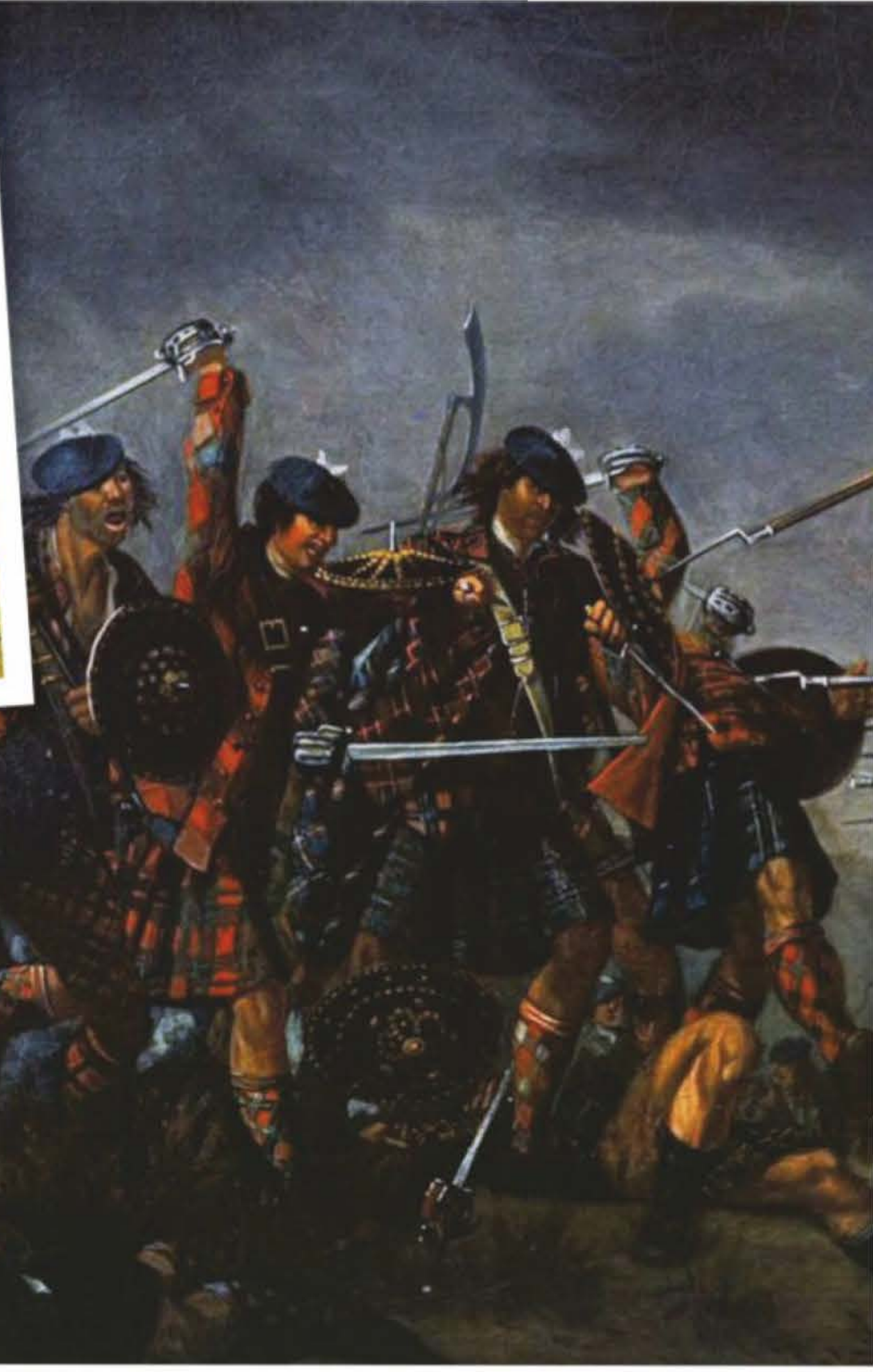
ISABELLA LUMSDEN

Devoted to the Jacobite cause, Isabella convinced her artist husband, Robert Strange, to create pro-Jacobite engravings and fans, which Isabella herself sold to other Jacobite women to raise essential funds for the campaign.



LADY NAIRNE

A woman of influence, Lady Nairne was an elderly woman by the time Bonnie Prince Charlie landed in Scotland, but she continued to aid the cause, sending men to help defeat government troops and encouraging her sons, grandsons, nephews and sons-in-law to participate in the Jacobite Risings.



ABOVE: **The Glenfinnan Monument on the shores of Loch Shiel marks the spot where Charles Edward Stuart raised his standard in 1745**

MAIN: **Though the Jacobites broke the British line at Culloden, they faltered under heavy fire**

in Scotland, Charles met with almost no support, for he brought none.

Then young Ranald of Kinlochmoidart, whose father had been a Jacobite major in 1715, shamed his seniors by declaring, "Though no other man in the Highlands should draw a sword, I am ready to die for you." The charismatic Charles also managed to enlist the support of Donald, chief of the Camerons. On 19 August, 1,300 men stood beneath the red and white banner of the Royal House of Stuart at Glenfinnan, now arguably more famed for its viaduct, over which the 'Hogwarts Express', aka *The Jacobite*, steams in the *Harry Potter* films. The Jacobite Rising of 1745 was underway.

Initially, progress was rapid. By 17 September, following a series of small victories, Charles was able to enter Edinburgh unopposed, although the castle remained in government hands. He took up residence at Holyroodhouse, where his grandfather James VII and II had held court before him. Four days later came the victory at Prestonpans.

SOUTHERN STRIKE

At this point, many Jacobite commanders wanted to stay in Scotland, reconvene the Scottish Parliament and raise an army that could resist invasion. But Charles, who carried the day by a single vote, wanted to invade England, in part because he feared the resources that George II, who had ascended the throne in 1727, might bring to bear against Scotland once Great Britain was under less pressure in the War of the Austrian Succession. As it was, Yorkshire alone raised enough in loyal subscriptions to George to have paid the Jacobite army for four months.

Charles issued a fresh declaration against the Union in October and, after training and recruiting, marched south in early November with 5,000 men and some 2,000 camp followers. Carlisle fell by mid-November. In late November, Charles reached Manchester. On 3 December, the Duke of Devonshire withdrew from the defence of Derbyshire when the Jacobites entered Ashbourne. Just 1,000-1,500 regular soldiers and local militias lay between the 'Highland Army' and London.

> "Against Charles's fervent wishes, the Jacobite army turned back"

Against Charles's fervent wishes, the Jacobite army turned back at Derby; just 1,000 men had joined the Jacobite cause in England, far fewer than expected. Moreover, the French hadn't sent forces to England, whereas Franco-Scots forces had landed in Scotland under Lieutenant-General Lord John Drummond, and Charles's commanders saw it as prudent to link up with them to consolidate the Jacobite position north of the border. Charles's commanders also seem to have found it hard to believe they were poised to enter London without fighting a major battle, though they were.

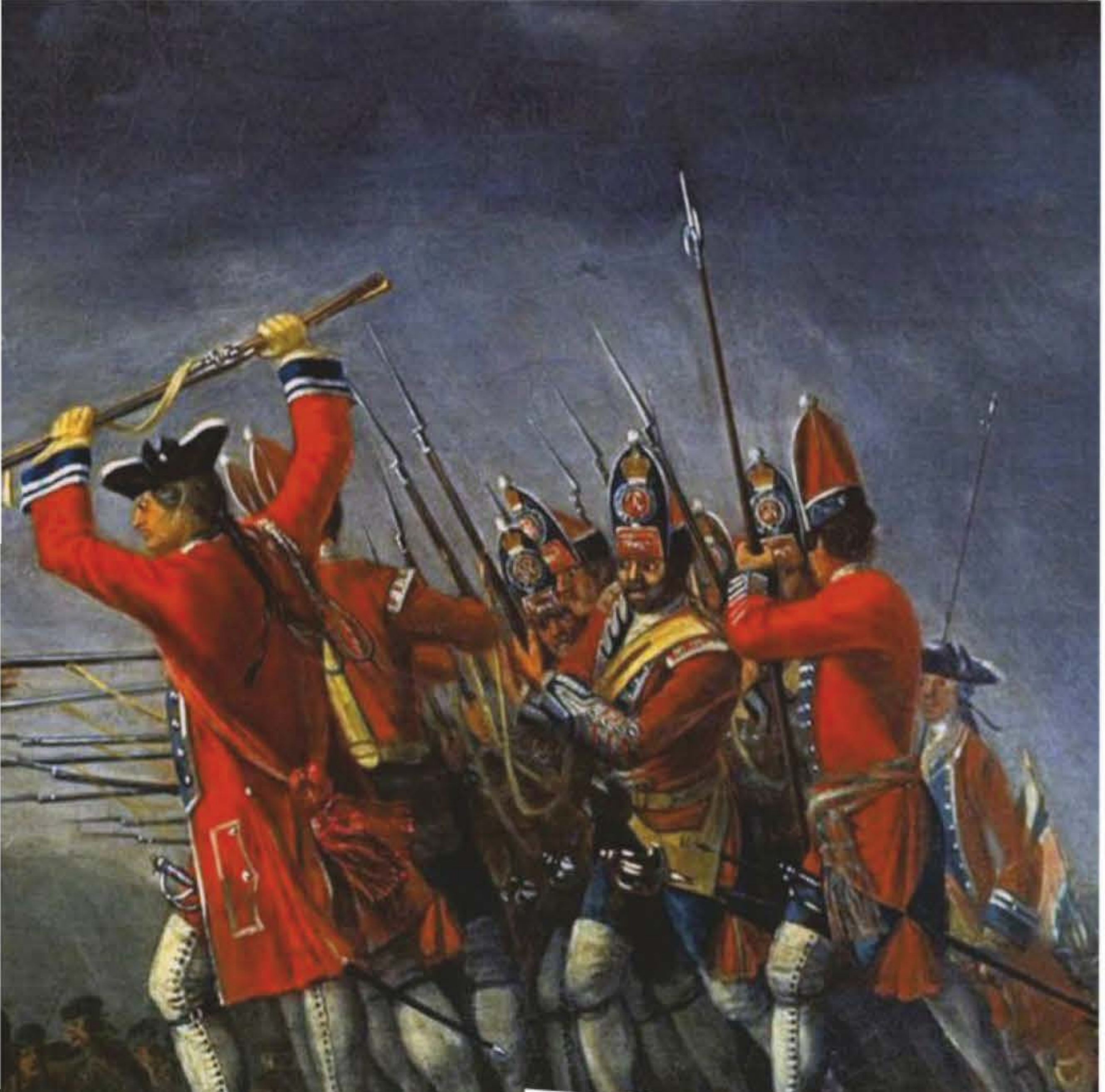
The Jacobite army retreated, yet even that December, the Jacobites defeated the British advance guard at Clifton and, in Scotland, were victorious at the Battle of Inverurie. In January came another victory at Falkirk. By this time, there were nearly 14,000 Jacobites in arms.

THE TIDE TURNS

But the psychology of retreat without defeat is exceptionally difficult to manage. Under pressure from Lord George Murray and other Jacobite commanders – who saw no hope of final victory – Charles retreated north. In late February, the Jacobites lost access to the east coast ports through which France could supply Irish Brigade troops.

The end was now near. On the morning of 16 April, a failed night attack on the Duke of Cumberland's camp left the Jacobites outnumbered and disorganised as the British Army advanced, the death-rattle of its almost 250 kettledrums (a relatively new innovation) matching the skirl of

ALAMY X1, GETTY IMAGES X2, SONY PICTURES/STARZ X1



PASSION AND POWER: JACOBITES ON THE SCREEN

The drama and passion of the Jacobite fight for the British Crown has inspired countless works of fiction and non-fiction. Among the best-known of the former is Diana Gabaldon's *Outlander* series of eight novels which, in 2014, was adapted for television. The series focuses on married British combat nurse Claire Randall (Caitriona Balfe) who finds herself swept back in time from 1945 to the dangerous world of 1743, where she is forced to marry James 'Jamie' Fraser (Sam Heughan), a young Scottish warrior embroiled in the Jacobite struggle to restore the Stuart line to the British throne.

Based on *The Fiery Cross* (the fifth novel in Diana Gabaldon's series), season 5 of *Outlander* begins on Sunday 16 February on Starz in the US and on Amazon Prime Video in the UK from Monday 17 February. Seasons 1-4 are available to buy on DVD and can be watched online via Amazon Prime, iTunes and Now TV.

Sam Heughan and Caitriona Balfe star as Jamie and Claire Fraser in the TV adaptation of *Outlander*

CLAN MACKINTOSH

Today Culloden battlefield is peppered with grave markers naming many of the major clans that fought there

the pipes and announcing its threat from afar. The Battle of Culloden had begun. Outnumbering the Jacobites almost two to one, Cumberland ruthlessly pressed his advantage and, learning the lessons of Prestonpans, employed new tactics so that even when the Jacobites broke the British line, the attack faltered under heavy fire. The British cavalry, held back rather than being deployed too early as at earlier battles, destroyed the Jacobite flanks.

Whole Jacobite regiments withdrew in good order when they saw the day was lost and were not pursued. But instead, women, children and stragglers on the road to Inverness were cut down all the way into the town. Around 1,000 Jacobites died on the field, and 2,000 more people in the days that followed. "I tremble for fear that this vile spot [Scotland] may still be the ruin of this island," Cumberland said, but his actions, for all they were born of fear and anger, were atrocious, war crimes in modern parlance. Charles escaped Culloden but, although he visited London incognito in 1750, he died in exile in 1788. His brother and successor as Jacobite claimant, Henry, never pressed his claims and became a cardinal.

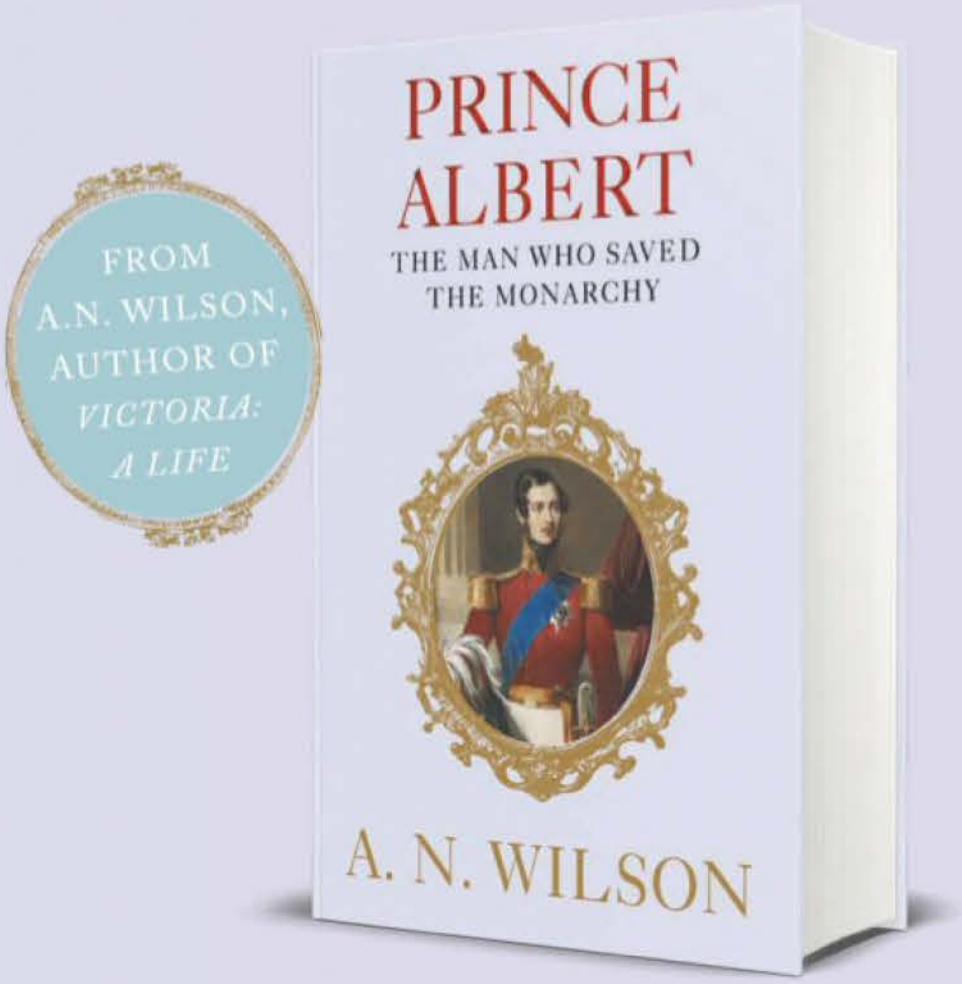
The world had changed and the Jacobite threat, while it flared into life briefly with support for a potential French invasion in 1759, was over. Ironically, though, the military tradition associated with the uprisings of 1715 and 1745 would play powerfully into the future of Britain as the Scottish martial tradition became central to the story of empire. In 1757, the men of the 78th Fraser Highlanders, formed by clan chief Lieutenant-Colonel Simon Fraser of Lovat, embarked for Canada, where they fought with distinction against the French in Quebec during the Seven Years' War, perhaps facing men they had fought alongside back in 1745. ⊙

GET HOOKED

LISTEN

Murray Pittock discusses the Jacobite Rebellion on an episode of In Our Time on BBC Radio 4
www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p00548y0

THE TRUE ARCHITECT OF
THE VICTORIAN AGE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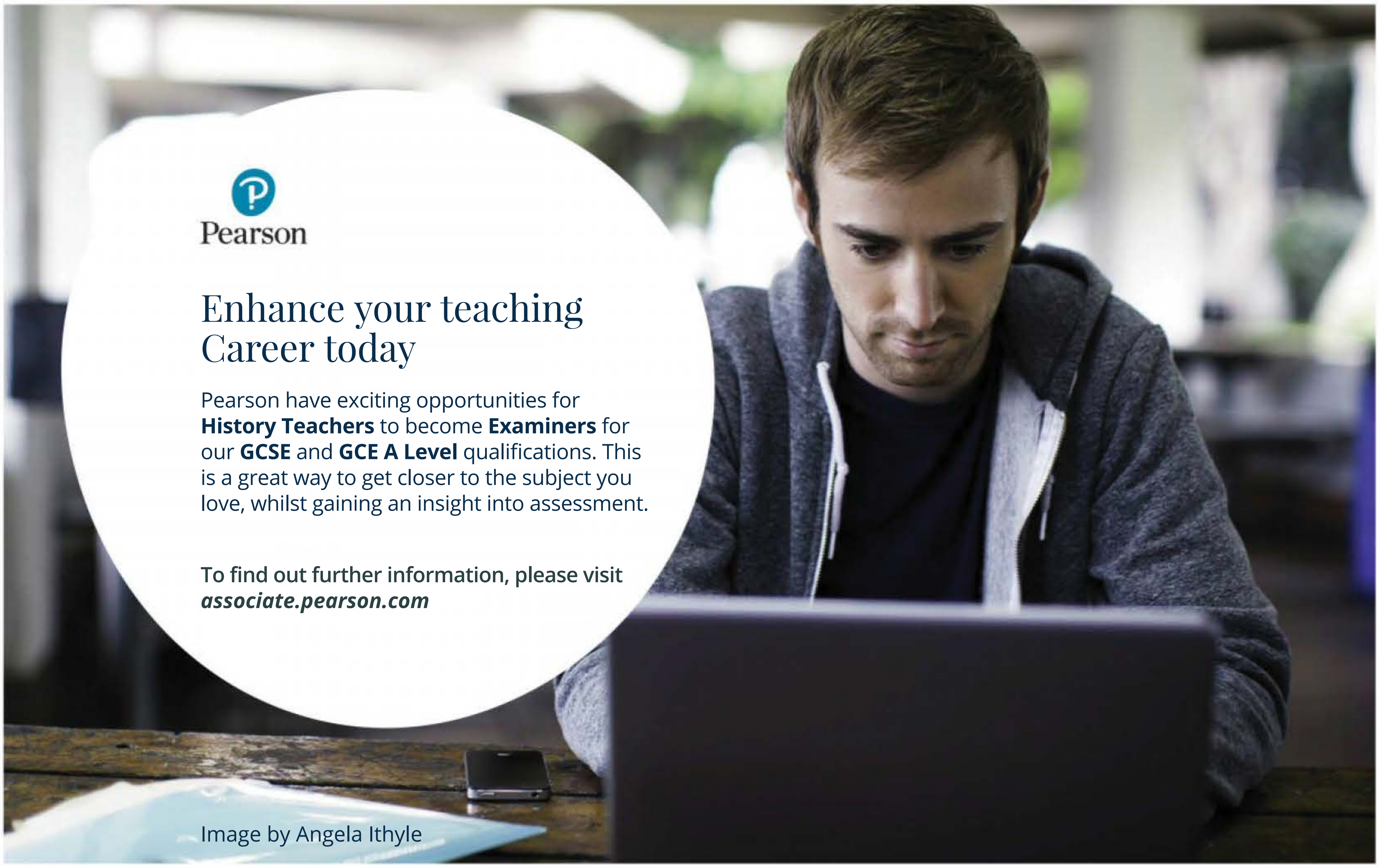

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LOVE
POTION
USE WITH CARE!!

THE MISGUIDED ROMANTIC'S GUIDE TO

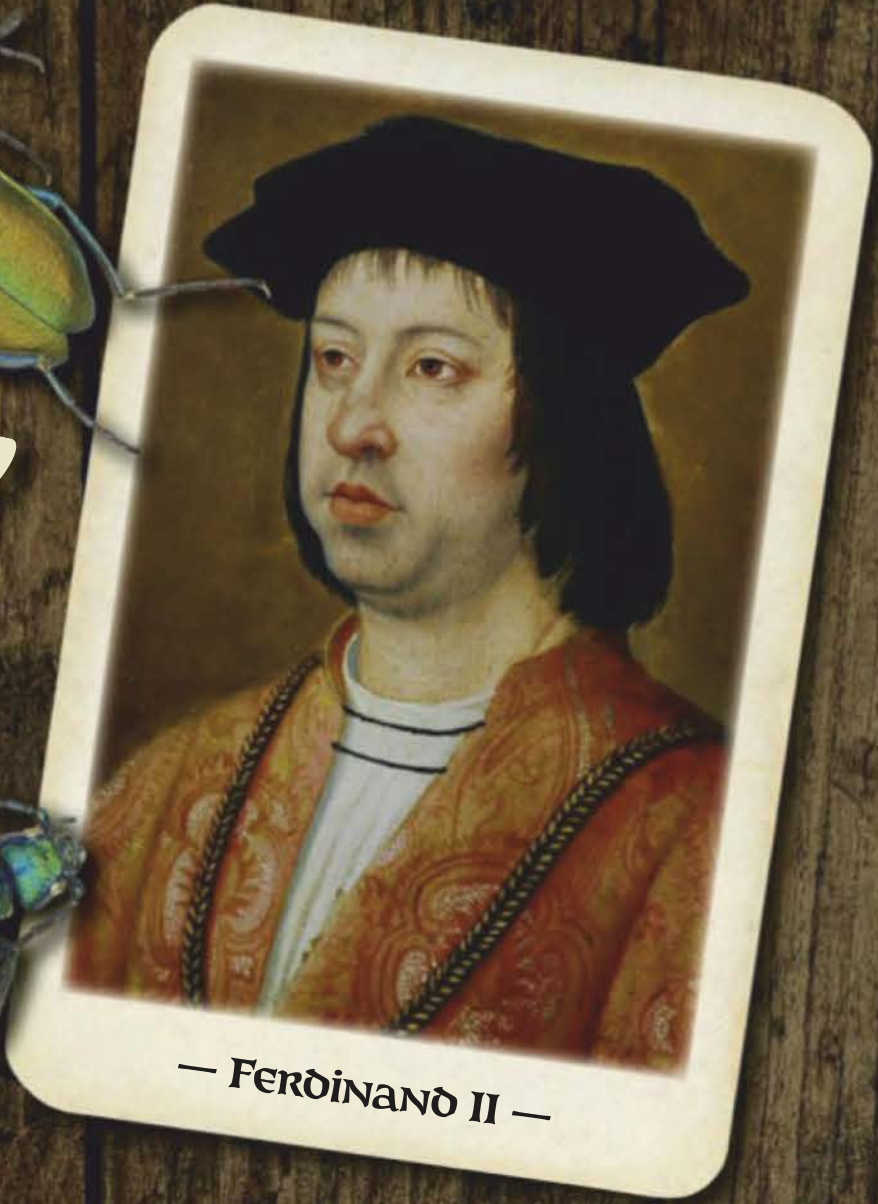
LOVE POTIONS

Throughout history, pining lovers have turned to strange concoctions to win the hearts of their intended. From mashed-up worms to cakes made from human sweat, **Emma Slattery Williams** dips into some of the weirdest

GETTY IMAGES

SPARKS MIGHT FLY

Since the time of the ancient Greeks, the deadly insect known as the Spanish fly has been used in love potions. A type of blister beetle, the emerald green insect was popularly crushed with herbs and made into tonics. It could cause feelings of warmth to course through the body, but this was normally due to inflammation rather than desire. The toxic bug was incredibly dangerous and its use was rumoured to have caused the death of Ferdinand II of Aragon. After the death of his wife Isabella I of Castile, Ferdinand swiftly married the much younger Germaine of Foix. It's thought that, due to his advancing years and their desire to have a male heir, Ferdinand may have resorted to potions to improve his virility. He died in January 1516 after a steady decline in health, and it was well documented in his court at the time that he had ingested many suspicious elixirs and drinks that may have contained Spanish fly.



— Ferdinand II —

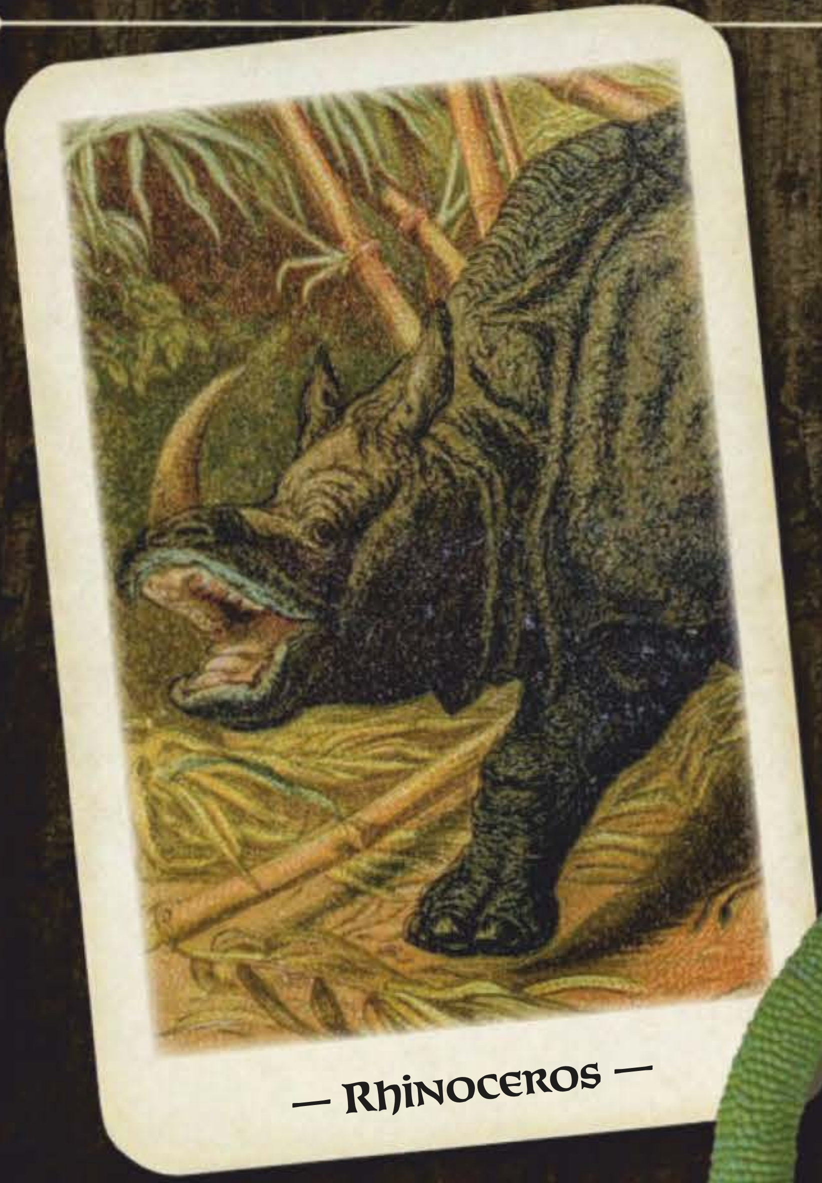
Ferdinand II didn't always struggle to awaken his amorous instincts – he fathered at least two children in extramarital affairs

DID YOU KNOW?

Mandrake has been known as an aphrodisiac since ancient times, and is still used today in parts of the world. However, the plant was said to shriek when harvested, causing death or madness to the hearer unless handled properly.

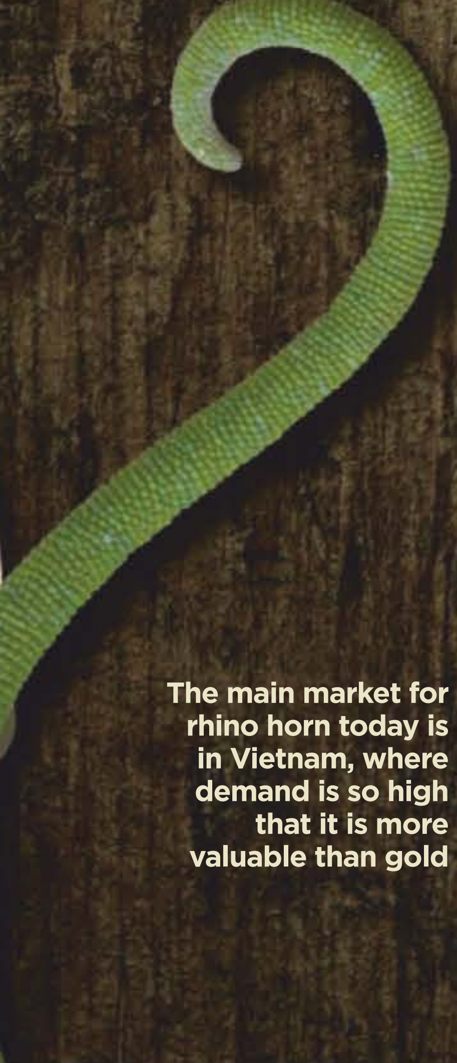
ANIMAL MAGNETISM

Animal parts have been used in medicine and witchcraft for centuries. Native Americans would use lizard tails in their love potions, and lizard necks were deployed in traditional Nigerian spells. In some cultures, though, a drowned lizard was thought to have the opposite effect in love. Rhino horns have often been believed to possess aphrodisiac properties, as well as being valuable in traditional medicines – a combination that has led to the animals being poached to near-extinction.



— Rhinoceros —

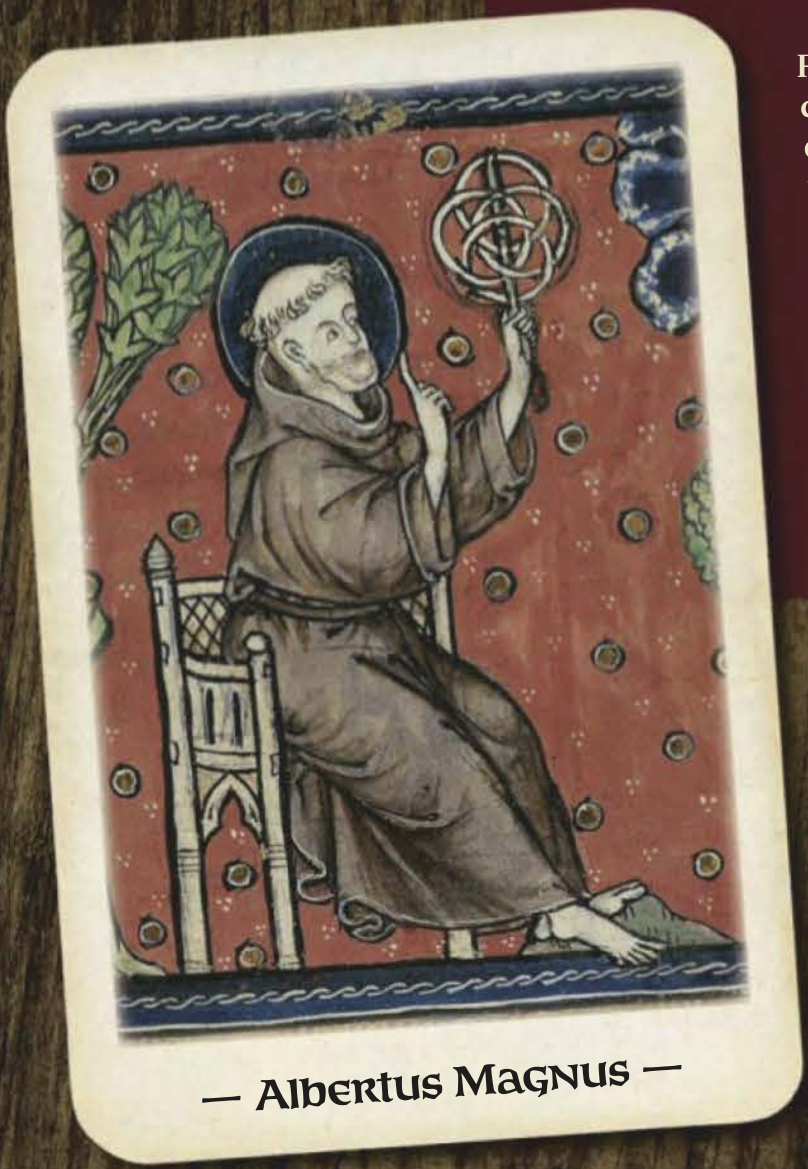
The main market for rhino horn today is in Vietnam, where demand is so high that it is more valuable than gold



ALAMY X3, GETTY IMAGES X8

FLOWERS OF CHIVALRY

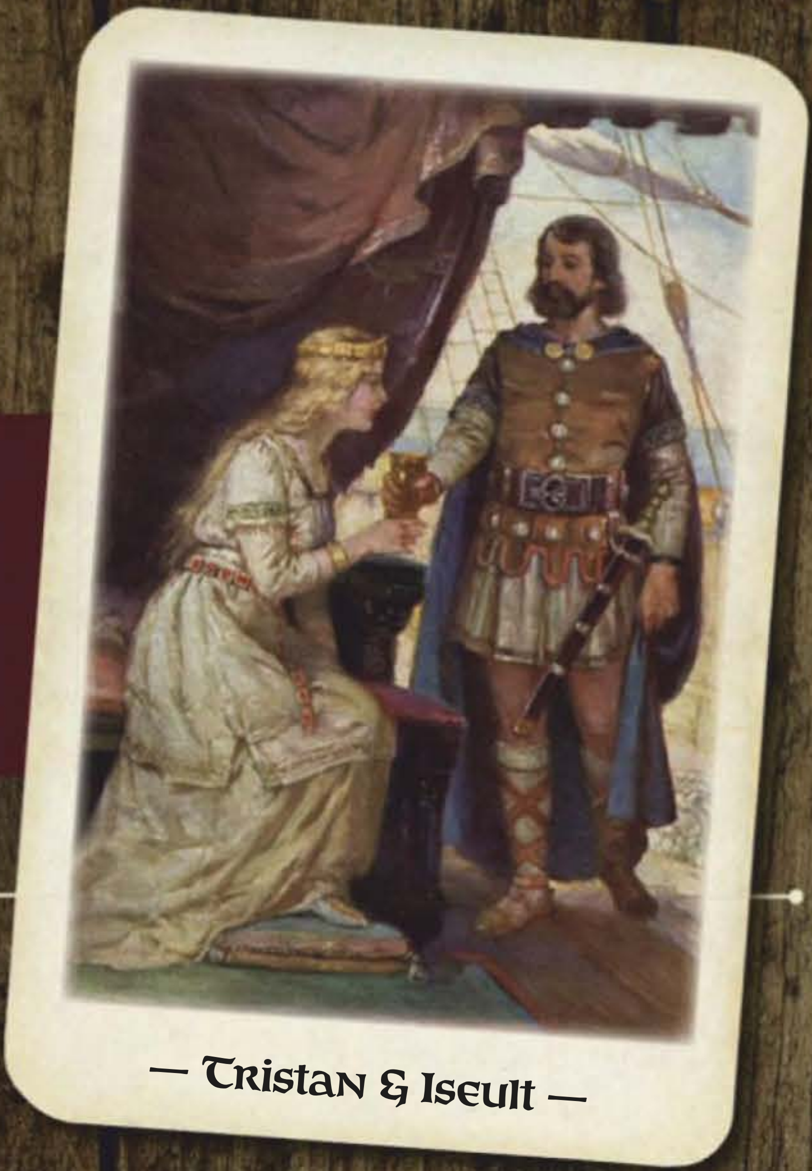
Flowers have long been associated with romance, so it's no surprise that for centuries desperate lovers have turned to them when looking to snare their heart's desire. A common love-charm method was to plant marigolds in the footsteps where the object of your affections had walked. The Datura plant was a popular ingredient in ancient Indian potions, and was thought to be a powerful aphrodisiac – but was also a deadly hallucinogen. In ancient Colombia, it had an even darker purpose, allegedly being used to drug the wives of dead chieftains so they that could be buried alive alongside their husbands. In classical Greece, one type of orchid, known as the Satyrion, was picked so much for its purported magical properties that it allegedly went extinct. The German alchemist, writer and later saint Albertus Magnus wrote that affection between a man and wife could be created with the periwinkle and crushed up worms. Flowers, it seems, had unlimited uses when it came to love.


— Albertus Magnus —

The scent of some flowers – such as lavender and vanilla orchids – have in fact been proven to boost desire in lovers

DOOMED LOVERS

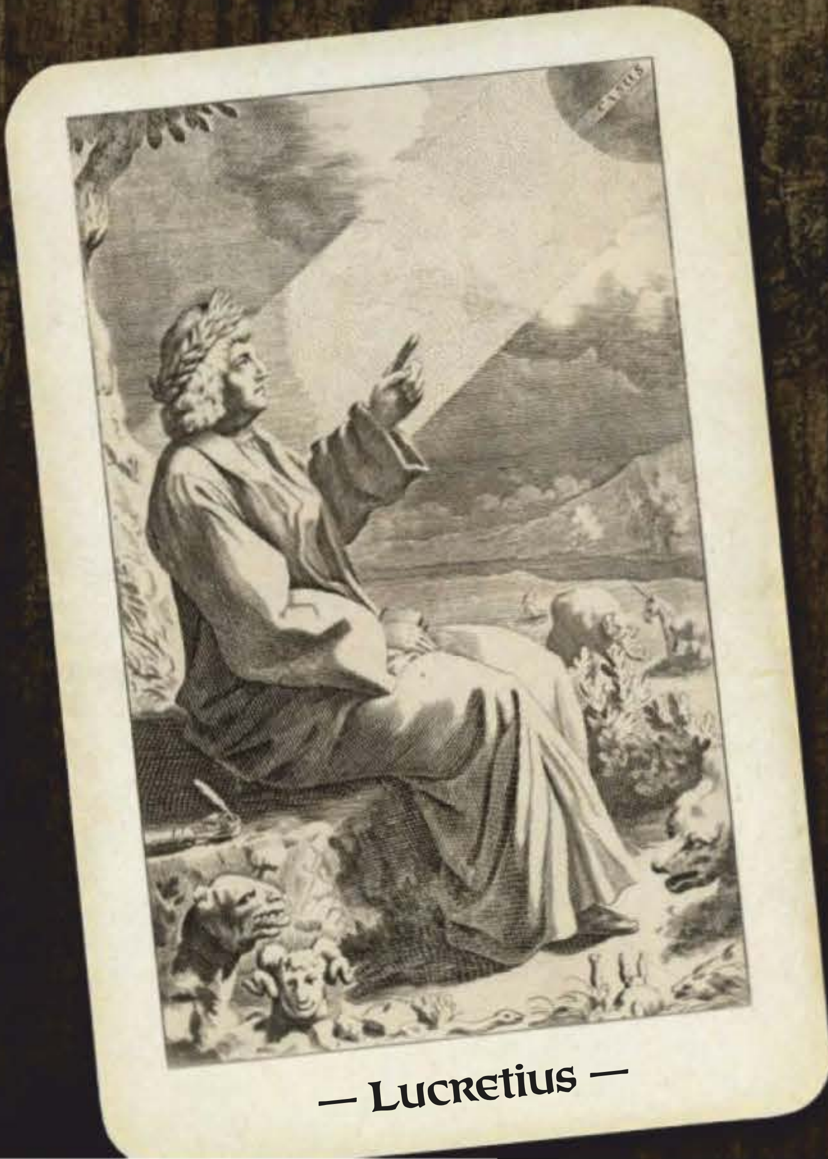
The Celtic legend of Tristan and Iseult is a tragic love story that was known across medieval Europe. Tristan travels to Ireland – so one version of the story goes – to ask for the hand of the princess Iseult on behalf of his uncle, the King of Cornwall. On the return journey, they accidentally consume a love potion meant for the king and his future bride, which binds them together. Images from this tale were often carved into caskets and given as gifts; the legend was one of many that prompted women to be accused of ensnaring their lovers with witchcraft and potions.



— Tristan & Iseult —

FROM ROME WITH LOVE

The Roman philosopher and poet Lucretius was reportedly driven insane by a love potion given to him by his wife, before later killing himself. Historians are uncertain whether this tale of his demise is true, but the image of him as a frenzied, lovesick poet has lived on. Love potions, which were commonplace in the ancient world, have their own classically derived name: philtre. This word traces its roots to the Greek *philtron*, which describes a substance that was eaten or drunk to induce passion.



— Lucretius —

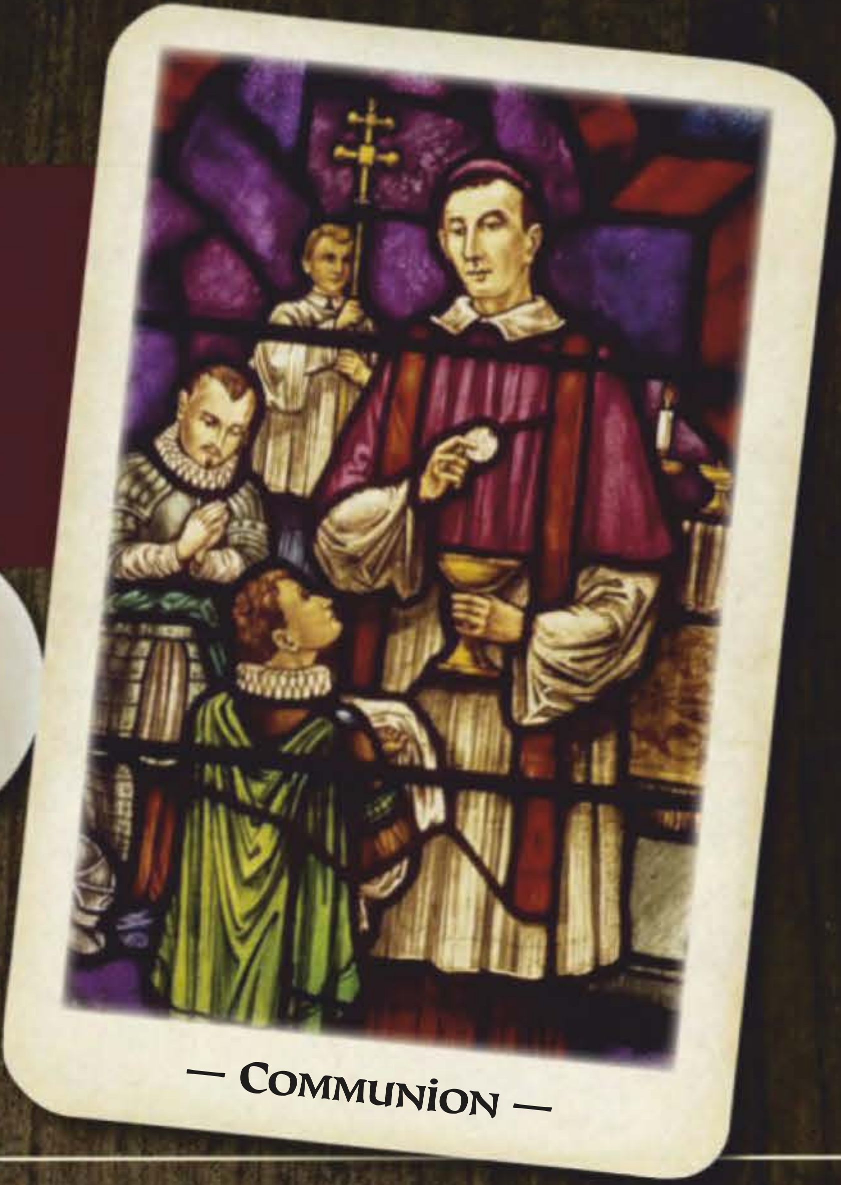
Worms were considered a powerful symbol of fertility due to their connection with the earth

RISKY BUSINESS

During the 17th century in colonial New Mexico, the settled Spanish would trade goods and customs with the local Native Americans. Inquisition records show that a number of women were convicted of witchcraft after administering potions they had obtained from indigenous peoples. Some of these would involve mashed worms, herbs and bodily fluids, which were to be spread on the chest of the one whose love you hoped to gain.

DIVINE DEVOTION

In the Roman Catholic Church, the consecrated communion host (sacramental bread) is believed to turn into the body of Jesus Christ during the rite of the Eucharist. As a result, some believed it held magical properties. In medieval Italy, a pining lover sought the advice of a wise woman in order to regain her long-lost sweetheart. She was advised to steal the consecrated host to use for a potion. The lover claimed that when she got home with her stolen host, it had transformed into a bleeding piece of flesh. It is still held at the Cathedral of Alatri and was declared a miracle.



— Communion —

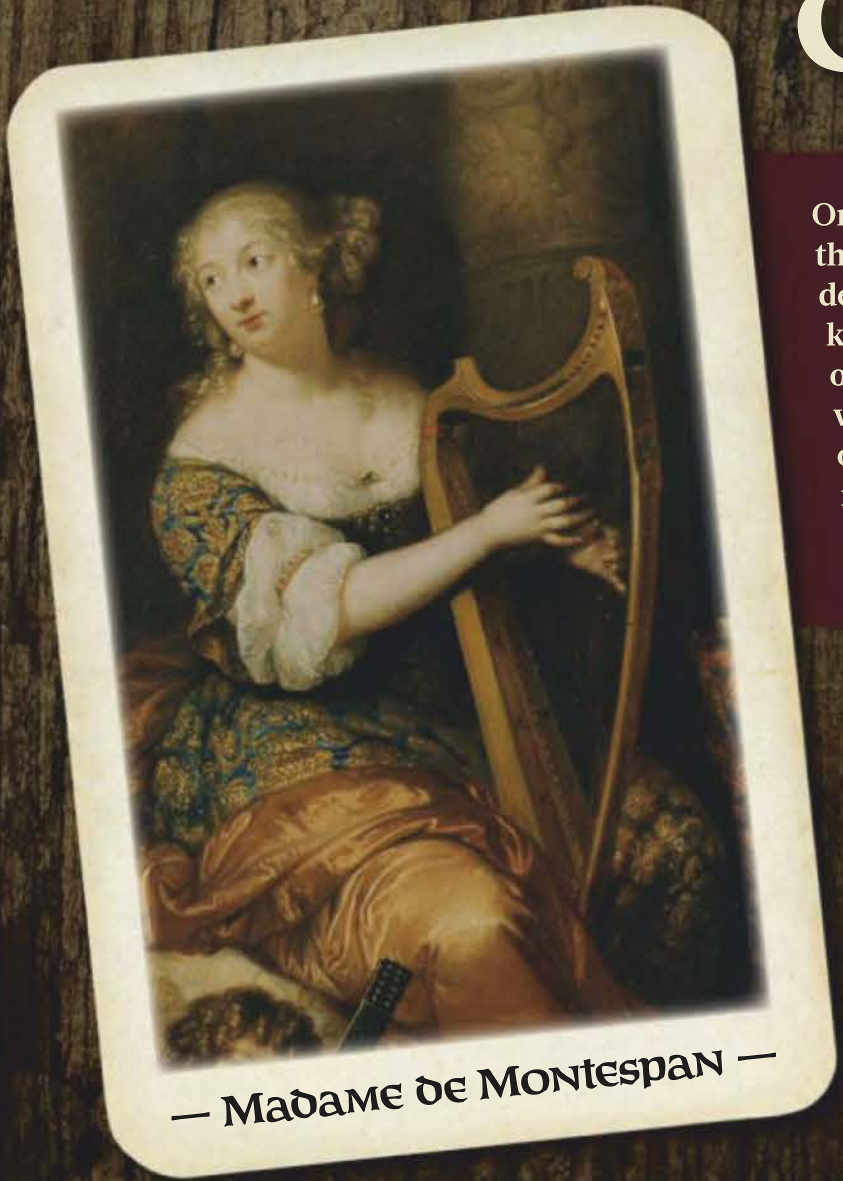
The consecrated host was tough to obtain, with individuals secreting it under their tongues during communion

DID YOU KNOW?

In 1957, a Puerto Rican man was arrested in New Jersey for the murder of a 13-year-old, whose decapitated body was found on the farm where he worked. The reason, he told police, was he needed a human skull to make into dust for love potions.

FOR THE LOVE OF A KING

One of the most famous cases involving love potions was in the court of the French monarch Louis XIV. The so-called Sun King, who lived in the decadent Palace of Versailles, had many mistresses, but the most well-known was Madame de Montespan. In 1677, she got caught up in the Affair of the Poisons – a supposed plot to poison the king. She was cleared of any wrongdoing, but it was still rumoured that she had sprinkled love potions on the king's food and used other dark and sacrilegious methods to maintain her hold over him – including sacrificing a baby and having black masses performed over her naked body. Understandably, de Montespan swiftly fell out of the king's favour – and his bed.



— Madame de Montespan —

desires
dreams
Passion

ALAMY X3, AKG-IMAGES X1, BRIDGEMAN IMAGES X1, GETTY IMAGES X3

TRULY HOMEMADE

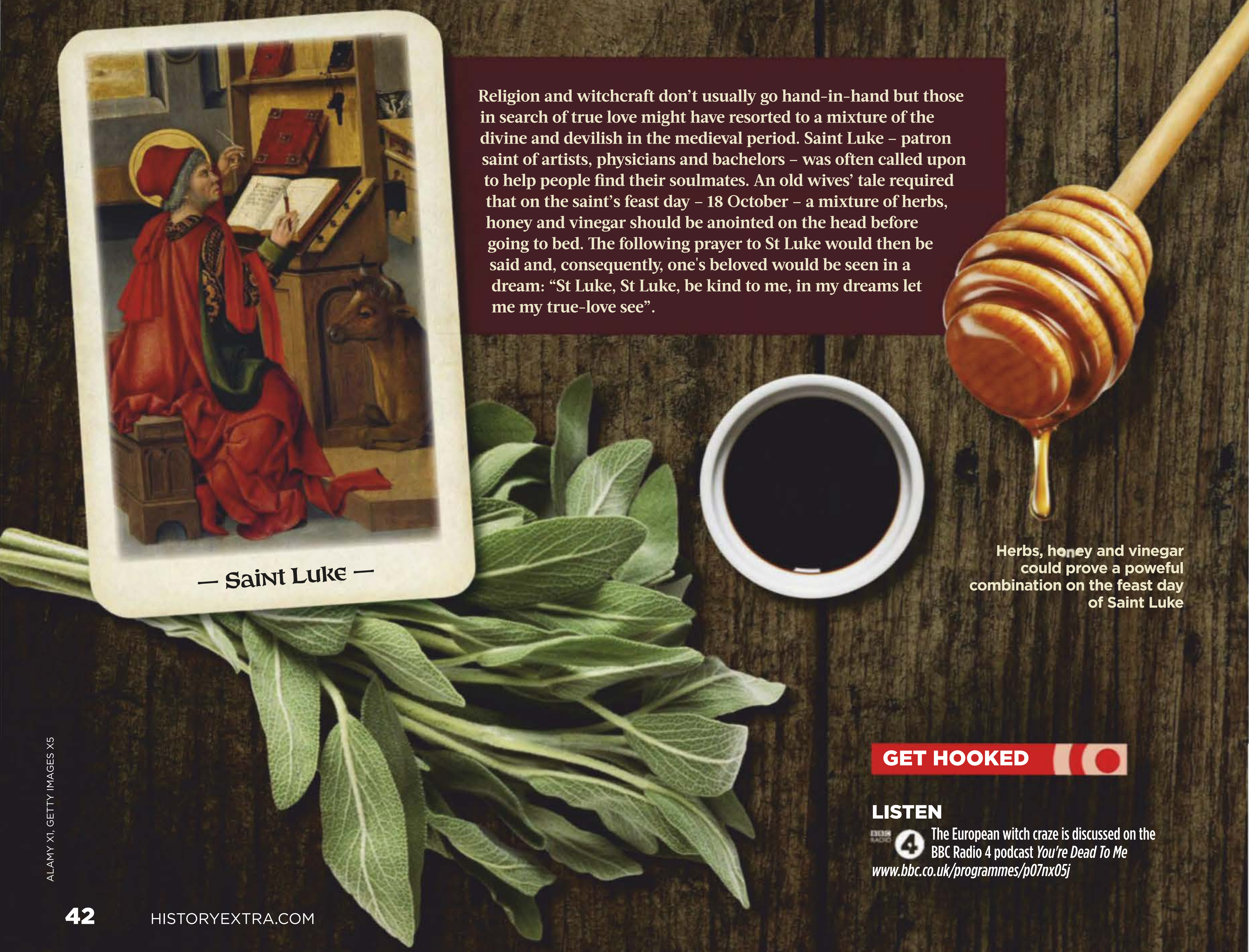
Some of the less appetising love potions used throughout history involved human ingredients. Some medieval recipes called for cakes to be made from sweat, blood and other bodily fluids, which could be presented to an intended lover – the hope being that these baked goods would instantly make them fall head over heels in love. Bits of skin and hair from an intended couple could also be whipped up into a brew to promote amorous stirrings.

A bakewell pudding, topped with a lock of hair. Cakes containing bodily fluids were believed to attract love

---

ON A WING AND A PRAYER

Religion and witchcraft don't usually go hand-in-hand but those in search of true love might have resorted to a mixture of the divine and devilish in the medieval period. Saint Luke – patron saint of artists, physicians and bachelors – was often called upon to help people find their soulmates. An old wives' tale required that on the saint's feast day – 18 October – a mixture of herbs, honey and vinegar should be anointed on the head before going to bed. The following prayer to St Luke would then be said and, consequently, one's beloved would be seen in a dream: "St Luke, St Luke, be kind to me, in my dreams let me my true-love see".



Herbs, honey and vinegar could prove a powerful combination on the feast day of Saint Luke

GET HOOKED

LISTEN

The European witch craze is discussed on the BBC Radio 4 podcast *You're Dead To Me* *www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p07nx05j*

ALAMY X1, GETTY IMAGES X5

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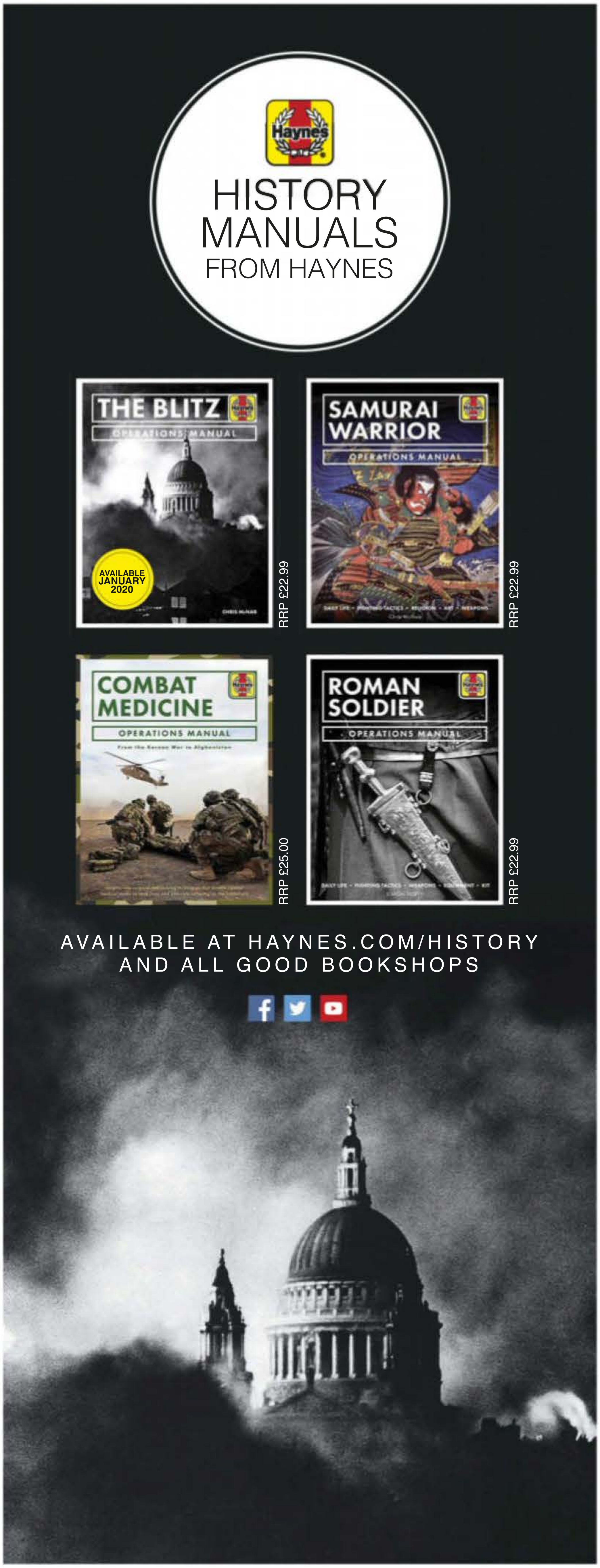

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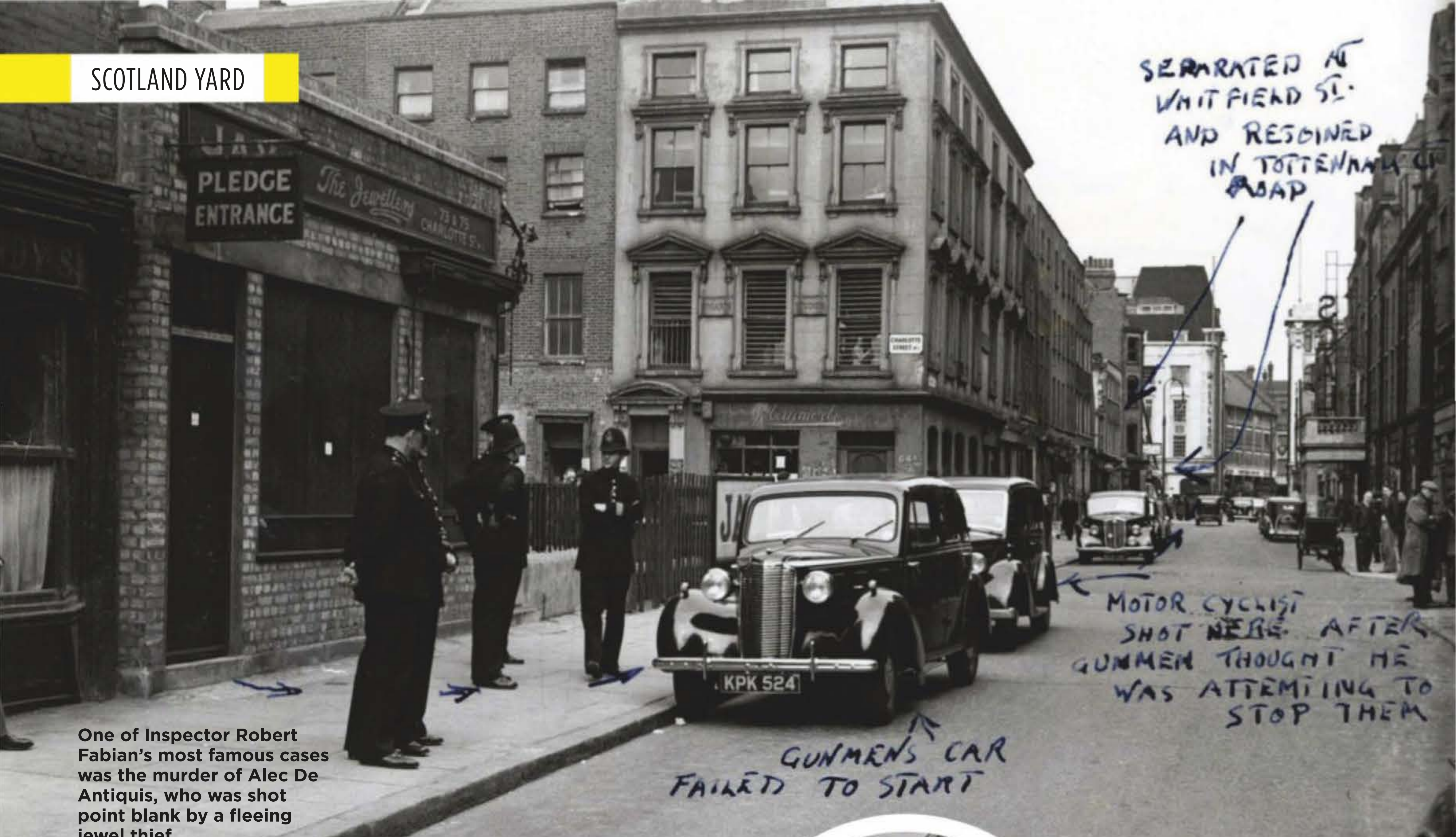
The words 'Scotland Yard' continue to conjure images of 'bobbies' patrolling the dark streets of Victorian London

THE RISE OF SCOTLAND YARD

Sinclair McKay charts the history of the most famous police force in Britain, and the colourful real-life detectives who inspired the likes of Sherlock Holmes

GETTY IMAGES X3


PLEDGE
ENTRANCE
The Jewellery
73 & 75 CHARLOTTE ST
SEPARATED AT WHITFIELD ST. AND REJOINED IN TOTTENHAM Ct ROAD
MOTOR CYCLIST SHOT ~~HERE~~ AFTER GUNMEN THOUGHT HE WAS ATTEMTING TO STOP THEM
GUNMENS CAR FAILED TO START
KPK 524

One of Inspector Robert Fabian's most famous cases was the murder of Alec De Antiquis, who was shot point blank by a fleeing jewel thief

He was a jewel thief who dressed like an aristocrat, with a diamond stud in his dress shirt. This shadowy yet showy figure was occasionally witnessed on Mayfair rooftops at night in the 1920s, shimmering out of apartment windows and onto white-stuccoed balconies, before vanishing into the darkness. The audacious serial burglar had been preying on London's wealthiest inhabitants. But then came one obscure clue: a footprint on a drainage pipe. And something about it struck Inspector Robert Fabian of Scotland Yard as being unusual.

Fabian had a cast made of the footprint and had this sent to the special laboratory within the Yard. As Fabian later recalled, his inkling of something being awry was confirmed. It was the print of "a crepe rubber-soled evening dress shoe". This was something, he wrote, "that no gentleman would wear".

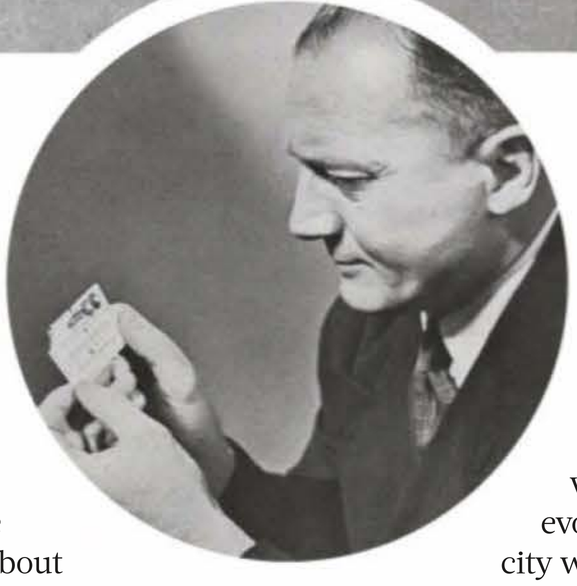
The investigation illustrated the twin tracks of Scotland Yard's approach: a dogged thoroughness combined with the occasional lightning flash of inspiration. There was another element here too: a sense that real-life cases and fictional crimes sometimes dovetailed thematically. This burglar, for instance, appeared to have based himself upon EW Hornung's elegant thief Raffles. Fabian and his associates found the one shop that made this style of shoe. The shop kept full records of all its customers. But there was a hitch: the swanky burglar had given a false name and address. So what next?

The history of Scotland Yard is threaded with such intriguing puzzles. The fascination is perennial because we wonder how *we* would set about solving them. Inspector Fabian was electrified with an idea. The burglaries had all been focused on one particular corner of Mayfair. And so over the space of several evenings, the detective took up position on a bar stool in a particularly glamorous hotel. Of all the dozens of people who came and went across the threshold of that bar and its parquet floor, one stood out: the man in evening dress whose footsteps made no noise.

It was the distinctive crepe soles. Fabian discreetly followed the young man home. The thief's lodgings were found to be filled with an extraordinary quantity of dazzling valuables – huge riches in a modest room.

HISTORY AND MYTH

Scotland Yard occupies a curious position in the national and international imagination. The headquarters of the Metropolitan Police, sited close to Downing Street and the House of Commons, still attracts countless tourists to stand beneath its revolving sign, posing for selfies. This in itself is, if you will forgive the term, arresting. How many other police forces around the world attract similar attention?



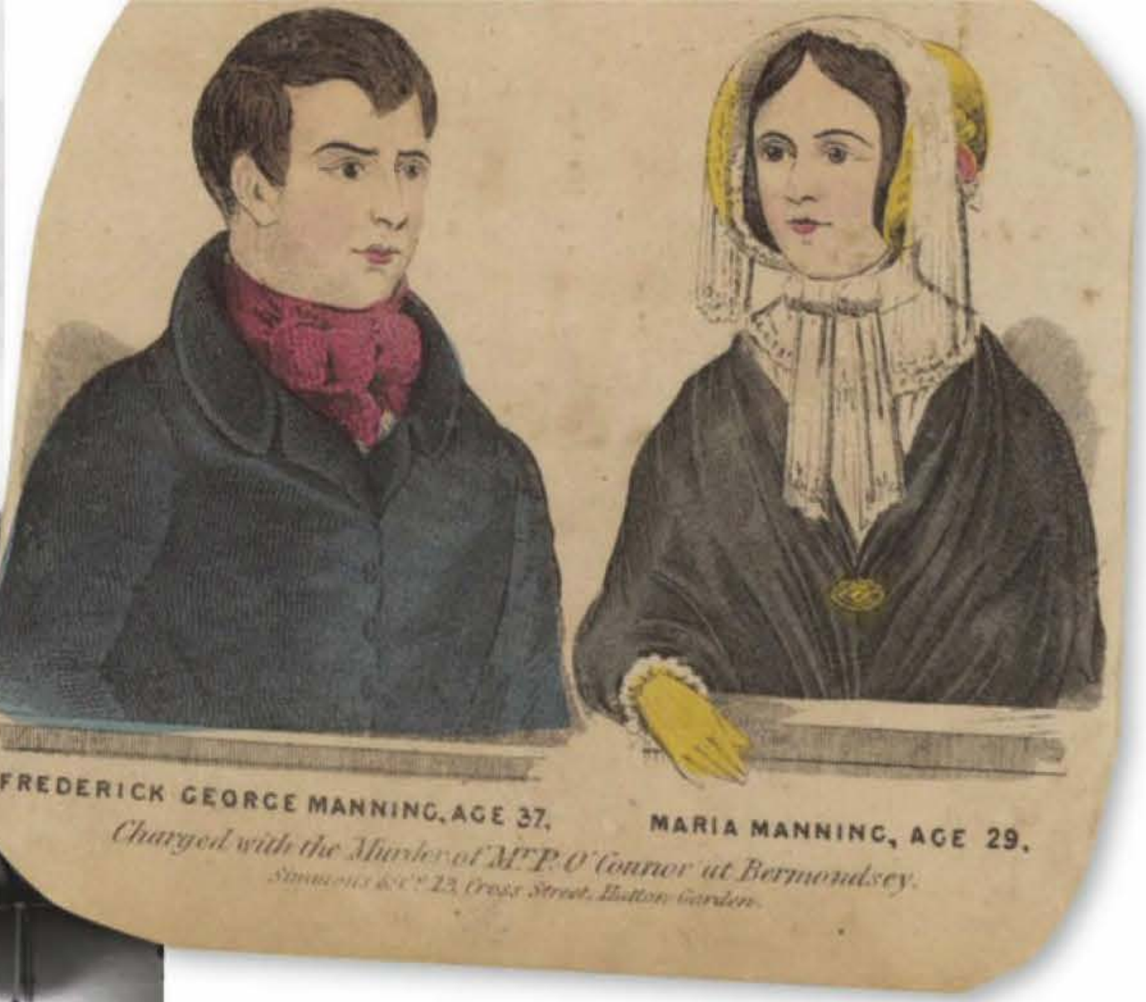
Inspector Robert Fabian: the legendary 'Fabian of the Yard'

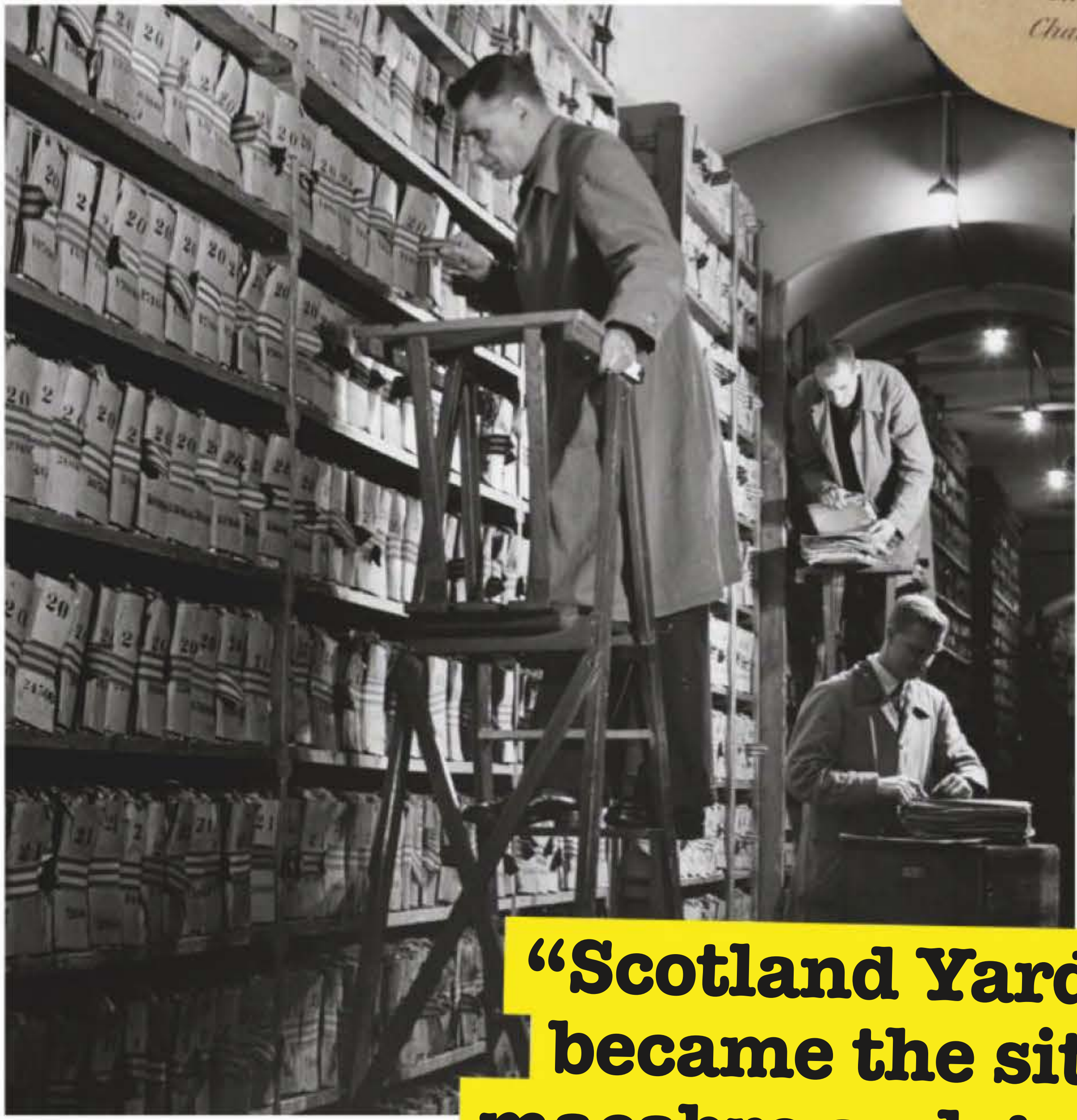
Part of the reason is that the words 'Scotland Yard' instantly evoke both history and myth – a city wreathed in fog, killers stalking cobbled dockland alleys, gangsters in wet neon Soho streets, the shrill notes of police whistles, constables with handlebar moustaches, detectives dressed in raincoats who face the world with eyebrows permanently raised in amused scepticism.

The reality is just as colourful. Sir Robert Peel founded the Metropolitan Police Service in 1829. It was a successor to the small band of 18th-century 'thief takers' assembled by judge Henry Fielding and popularly known as the Bow Street Runners. This new police force answered the question of how to maintain the rule of law in a city that seemed – with its growing population – to be teetering on the edge of disorder.

As part of their training, the first recruits were taught to fight with sabres. Initially, there were 895 constables, 88 sergeants, 20 inspectors and eight superintendents. This new force had its headquarters in Whitehall Place,

BRIDGEMAN IMAGES X2, MARY EVANS X1, SHUTTERSTOCK X1, TOPFOTO X1


FREDERICK GEORGE MANNING, AGE 37.
MARIA MANNING, AGE 29.
Charged with the Murder of Mr P. O'Connor at Bermondsey.
Simmons & Co 13, Cross Street, Hatton Garden.



ABOVE: **Married murderers the Mannings buried a man beneath their kitchen**

ABOVE LEFT: **The Metropolitan Police HQ at New Scotland Yard in c1891**

LEFT: **Scouring the records within New Scotland Yard**

backing on to a courtyard called Scotland Yard.

Almost immediately, the work of these new officers – with the city divided up into districts and 'police offices' – was eagerly chronicled in the press. As well as assaults and robberies and a great many cases of coin forgery, there were more baroque crimes, such as an outbreak of grave robbery in Poplar, near the docks, in 1833. As a gesture towards new immigrants, numbers of Irish men were recruited in the 1830s and they frequently came to be loathed by local Irish communities. Broadly, though, the police swiftly established their place in the city's landscape.

After some decades of steady expansion, the Metropolitan Police (now occupying several properties on Whitehall Place) needed new purpose-built offices. It was at this point that Scotland Yard itself became the site of a macabre and gruesome murder mystery. In 1888, as builders prepared to start work on the vision of architect Norman Shaw – alternating brick and pale Portland stone, still there on Victoria Embankment today - the dismembered body of a lady wearing a satin dress was found in a disused cellar. Ironically, the crime was, and remains, unsolved.

> “Scotland Yard itself became the site of a macabre and gruesome murder mystery”

It had been for such crimes that a new strata of police officer had been brought into being in 1842: the Detective Branch. There had been initial resistance to the idea of investigating officers in plain clothes; too reminiscent of the state spies found throughout various continental countries. But soon these detectives seized the public imagination.

ON THE CASE

In 1843 came the case of the Bermondsey Horror. A young married couple, Frederick and Maria Manning, had hatched a ghastly plot, targeting a wealthy docks official called Patrick O'Connor. Maria had an intense relationship with O'Connor, who was besotted with her. One night she invited him to dinner at the marital home in south London. The couple attacked and murdered O'Connor, and buried his body beneath the kitchen flagstones. Maria went to O'Connor's lodgings, seized all his share certificates and immediately went on the run, even leaving behind her hapless husband.

Detectives tracked down both their whereabouts – she in Edinburgh, he in the Channel Islands – using ultra-modern telegraph communications and the new railways. The case, together with the gruesome husband-and-wife public hanging that followed the guilty verdict, was a popular sensation.

There were plenty more sensational cases to follow. One of the first detectives to be recruited to the department and to achieve public prominence was Inspector Charles Frederick Field. He was intimately acquainted with the direst, most poverty-stricken slums; but also made night-time patrols of the Egyptian mummies in the British museum. The inspector attracted the attention of Charles Dickens – who was a journalist as well as a novelist. He joined Field on several nocturnal journeys

Continues on p50

COULD YOU BE A DETECTIVE?

Could you solve the cold cases? Try your hand at these head-scratchers, inspired by tests once taken by Scotland Yard detectives…*

1

A bank manager has vanished and no one knows the full combination of the locked safe. Individual members of staff, however, can recall pieces of information.

1. The safe number used the digits 1 to 7 and each appeared once.
2. No two odd digits are next to each other.
3. The difference between adjacent digits is always greater than one.
4. The penultimate digit was twice the value of the final digit.

That information is enough for the inspector to work out the code and open the safe. What was the code number?

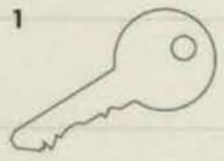
2

The names of precious gems are hidden in the sentences below. Find them by joining words or parts of words together.

1. He is going to chop a lot of logs for the fire.
2. I am leaving for my train trip early tomorrow morning.
3. The crook dressed as a beggar netted a good haul of valuable items.
4. Rest assured, I am on duty this evening and you are in safe hands.
5. Is that the shrub you only planted last year? It's beautiful!
6. Escape. Rid others of your presence here!

3

Here are a collection of keys. There are only two keys that are identical. Keep your eyes peeled. Which keys are the same?

1


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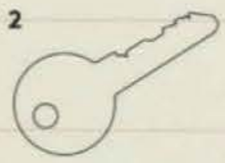

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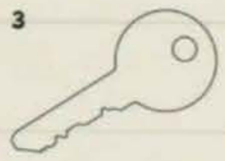

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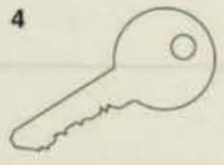

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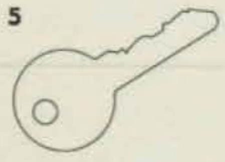

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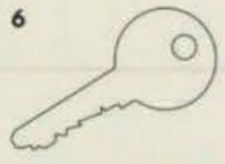

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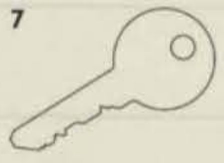

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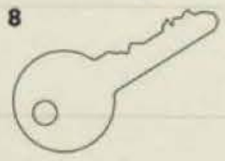

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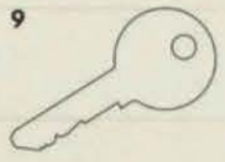

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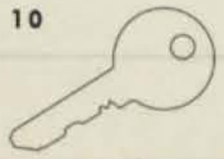

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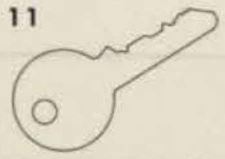

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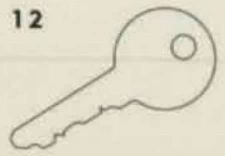


4

There are six glasses in a row Three are empty, Three are full and you can only move or touch one glass. Make a line in which all the glasses are alternately empty and full.

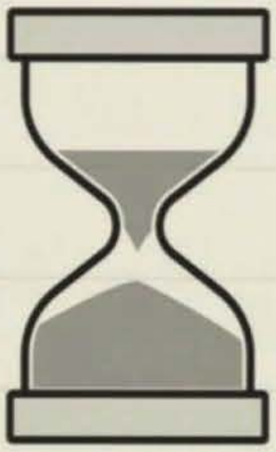
5

In the puzzle below complete the word by inserting the name of a body part.

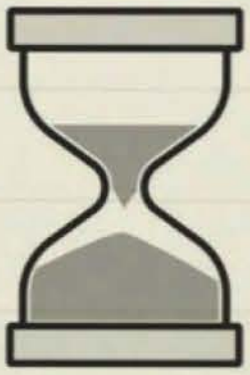
1. S___MENT
2. MA___IST
3. C___BAGE
4. EC___SE
5. W___WRIGHT
6. EN_____
7. POTA___S
8. IL___IBLE

6

One timer takes exactly NINE minutes for the sand to move from the top to the lower section. The other timer takes exactly FIVE minutes for the same thing to happen. Your task is to find a way to measure THIRTEEN minutes using the two timers.



NINE MINUTES



FIVE MINUTES

ILLUSTRATIONS: THE SCOTLAND YARD PUZZLE BOOK BY SINCLAIR MCKAY (HEADLINE, 2019)

7

The cryptic clues below should help you track down that most Victorian of murder weapons, poison. At one time poisons were untraceable but scientific advances changed all that. What can you uncover?

1. Eric's an unorthodox killer.
2. Give Nancy an ideal weapon for protection.
3. Fatal window blind not used during the day. (Two words)
4. Brother's headgear in garden danger.
5. Border fastening not to be tampered with.

8

Four rows, four columns. Five sets of instructions. Follow the instructions and discard the irrelevant information to get to the truth and reveal the hidden message.

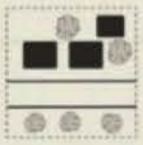
	1	2	3	4
A	NUT	WINGS	OWN	LIE
B	LET	SHY	CRY	BUY
C	SEA	APRON	DOGS	ARE
D	STEERING	SLEEPING	INTEGERS	ENERGIST

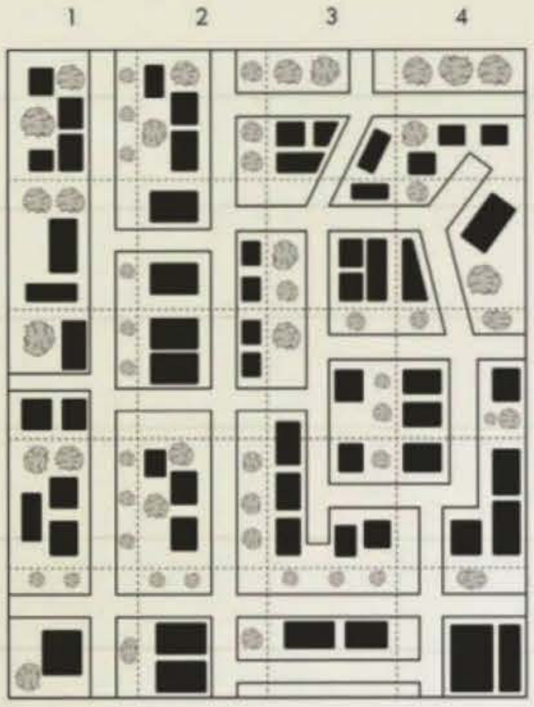
1. Discard every word which rhymes with another in row B
2. Discard every word which sounds like a letter of the alphabet in row C
3. Discard every word made solely of letters in the second half of the alphabet in row A
4. Discard every theatre term in column 2
5. Discard every word which is anagram of another in row D

What is the message?

9

It always helps to know your own patch. Officers take pride in knowing the geography of their own 'manor'. Here is an aerial view of a suburban area.





Can you locate the position on the map of the square shown at the top of the page? There is one segment of map that exactly matches this square.

10

The letters in the names of five capital cities have been replaced by the digits 1-9. The replacement digits are consistent throughout. Can you work out where this international traveller has been.

1. 1 2 3 1
2. 2 4 1 5 3
3. 6 7 5 2 2 4 3 2
4. 8 1 3 1 9 6 1
5. 7 1 9 4

11

Look at the symbols on the swipe cards below, which indicate which hotel room number the key will open. There are SEVEN symbols in all which each represent a number between 1 and 7.

⇠ ⇢ ⇡ ⇠ ⇠ = 9

↔ ↔ ↕ ⇠ ⇢ = 14

⇢ ⇠ ⇣ ⇢ ↔ = 15

↯ ⇠ ⇢ ⇣ ⇢ = 18

⇣ ⇠ ⇣ ⇡ ⇠ = 20

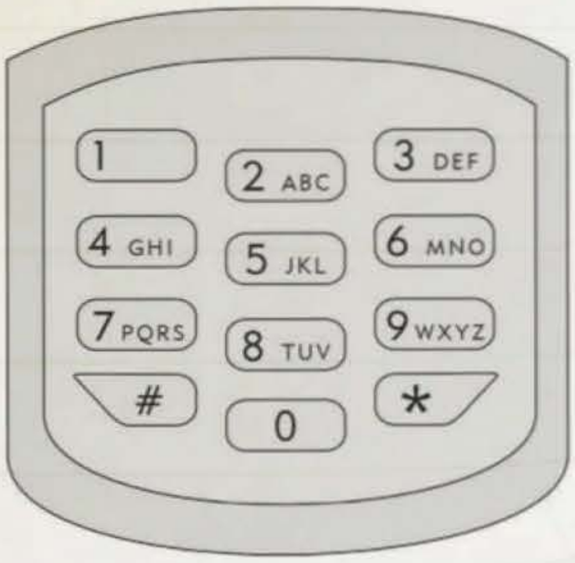
⇢ ⇣ ⇠ ⇣ ↯ = 23

Which room number will swipe card ↯ ↯ ↔ ⇢ ↕ open?

12

A cyber-criminal has tapped out a message regarding an important rendez vous. As you can see from the phone keypad each number can be any one of three or four letters. Using your powers of deduction and ingenuity can you work out which letter is represented by each number, and therefore decode the message.

4 226 733 968 66 843 53889 43 968 9268. 47 6666 86667769 65? 4 4673 76.



*Questions taken from *The Scotland Yard Puzzle Book*, by Sinclair McKay (Headline, 2019)

Answers on page 95

ABOVE: **British scientist and pioneering pathologist Sir Bernard Spilsbury**

> **“Before forensics, detection was as much a philosophical discipline as a scientific one”**

through London’s most crime-afflicted districts. In Dickens’s novel *Bleak House*, one strand of which concerns the murder of a character called Tulkinghorn, the charismatic Inspector Bucket – who moved with invisible ease through all social strata, sniffing out hidden truths and buried secrets – is thought to have been inspired by Field. This intertwining of reality and fiction was to intensify as the years went on.

GRUESOME APPEAL

The 19th century public appetite for murder was insatiable. Still notorious to this day was the killing of little Francis Kent, aged three, at Road Hill House in Wiltshire in 1860. Detective Inspector Jack Whicher, a man of humble origins with an eye that was both analytical and alive to the darker aspects of human nature, was dispatched to investigate. He uncovered a house filled with secrets, but no-one would accept his belief that the killer was the boy’s 16-year-old half-sister, Constance – she was prosecuted five years later, sentenced to death, had her punishment commuted to life imprisonment and was eventually released 20 years later. The case seeped into popular culture to an extraordinary degree, and the country house murder remains its own crime-fiction subgenre.

But the high Victorian era was also an age in which the idea of single clues exerted fascination. The 1864 Railway Murder, in which a city gentleman was fatally assaulted on a late night London commuter train, would have possibly been insoluble were it not for one strange element: the wrong hat. The killer, in the aftermath of the nightmarish bloody violence, had mistakenly left the train with the hat of his victim, rather than his own. And for Inspector Richard Tanner, this was the thread that led through the labyrinth.

In the decades before forensics, detection was as much a philosophical discipline as a scientific one; the recognition that fingerprints were unique had been made in the 1788 – and was in fact used in a limited sense in Indian bureacracy – but it was not until the turn of the century that Scotland Yard began compiling an extraordinarily detailed record of such prints.

One of the first times fingerprints were used in evidence at the Old Bailey was in 1902; a case involving a smart London villa, a serial burglar, and a purloined set of billiard balls. The thief’s prints had been found on the sash of the window. In a twist about 50 years later came the curious case of the Footprint on the Television; the set was in the flat of one Mrs Bowles, and the thief this time had crept in through her window, placing the sole of his foot upon the TV, in order to steal some underwear drying on the mantelpiece. The police got their man; but there never seemed any explanation of why he was barefooted.

BIRTH OF A SCIENCE

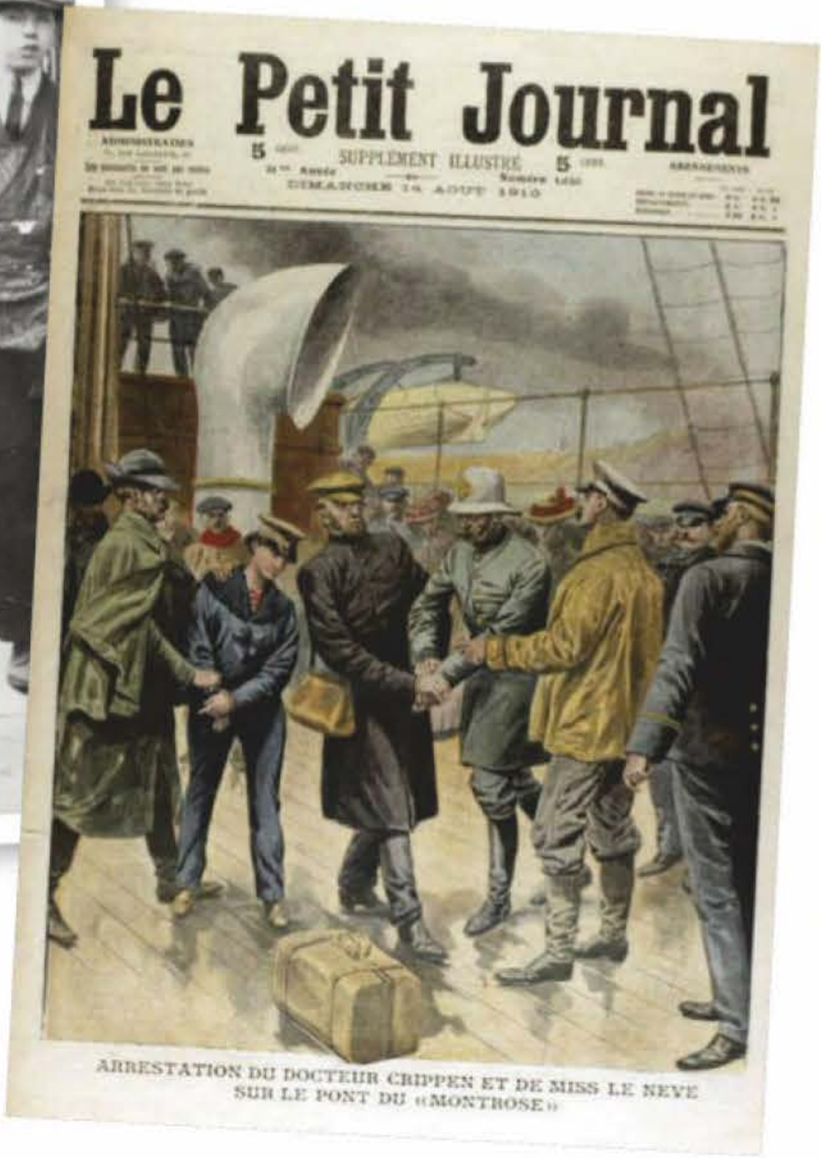
The principles of forensics went back centuries. A 13th-century Chinese book, *The Washing Away of Imputations or Wrongs*, gave stern advice about careful and impartial autopsies in order to avoid miscarriages of justice; there was also an example of determining which sharpened sickle had been used in a murder (when laid out in a row, the sickle that attracted the most blowflies to the specks of remaining blood). But in the 19th century, science was taking vast leaps; as well as huge improvements in microscopy, there were also chemical laboratories in Scotland Yard with experts identifying even the rarest poisons. And although the Ripper murders in 1888 were to go unsolved, the Yard investigation opened up a fresh innovation: the use of photography.

Figures such as medical analyst Charles Tidy came to be proficient in weighing up

LEFT: **Constance Kent confessed to the murder of her half-brother years after the fact – though there was much speculation that it was a false testimony**

FAR LEFT: **Inspector Charles Frederick Field is said to have inspired the character of ‘Inspector Bucket’ in Charles Dickens’ *Bleak House***

ALAMY X2, GETTY IMAGES X4, SHUTTERSTOCK X1


Le Petit Journal
SUPPLÉMENT ILLUSTRÉ
ARRESTATION DU DOCTEUR CRIPPEN ET DE MISS LE NEVE SUR LE PONT DU «MONTROSE»

ABOVE: **Frederick Wensley (*right*) famously puzzled together a cryptic clue to solve a murder**

RIGHT: **Sensational cases were lapped up by an eager public**

crime scenes simply from the positions of bodies: the shape of the muscles pressed against the floor. Then, in the early 20th century, Sir Bernard Spilsbury acquired fame in the popular press as the Yard pathologist who introduced the 'murder bag' to crime scene investigations. After he had seen constables picking up evidence with their bare hands, this became standardised kit: rubber gloves, tweezers for handling tiny objects and fragments, tape measures and evidence bags for the preservation of individual items. Spilsbury, incidentally, had been among those summoned to the dark musty cellar of Hilldrop Crescent in 1910, to gaze upon buried human remains: the wife of Dr Hawley Crippen.

Dr Crippen by that stage was on a transatlantic liner. Here was a triumph of technology and velocity for the Yard: thanks to advances in telegraphy, between ships and back to London, it was possible to confirm the fugitive's position. And Chief Inspector Dew of the Yard was dispatched on a rather faster steam ship to catch up with him, and to help make the arrest in Canadian waters.

Despite the brilliant Yard organisation – the meticulously cross-referenced files, the records of fingerprints, the laboratories and scientific expertise – some murders were still solved with astounding lateral thinking. In 1917, as London faced Zeppelin attacks in World War I, a brutally slain corpse was found – in pieces and wrapped in paper – near to King's Cross Station. There was a note attached to one parcel: "Blodie Belgium!" What could this cryptic message mean? Was it something to do with the war? Chief Inspector Frederick Wensley's investigation led him to a butcher called Louis Voisin. And he suspected the note was a deliberate false trail. The moment of inspiration came when – procuring pen and paper – the inspector asked Voisin to write the phrase 'Bloody Belgium'. Then he asked him to do so twice more as confirmation. The Belgian misspelled 'bloody' as 'blodie' repeatedly.

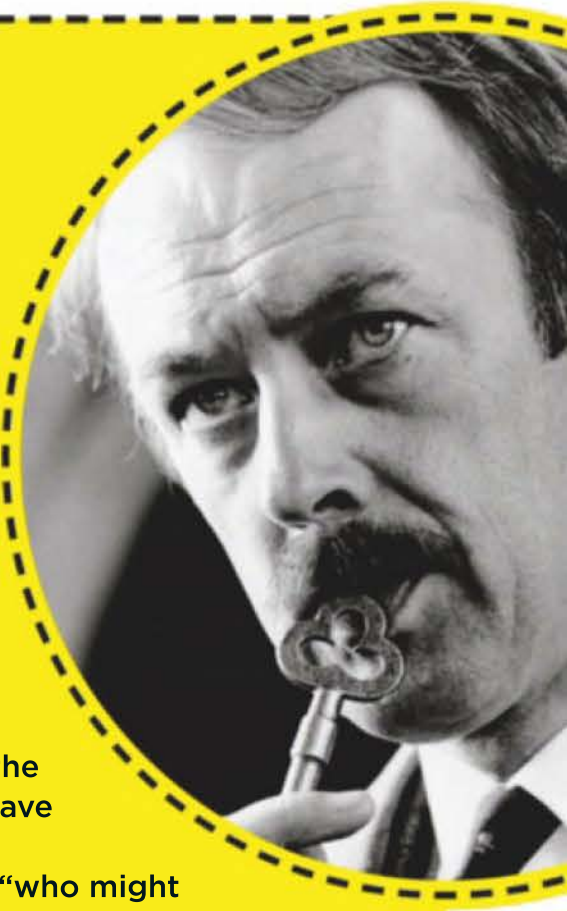
Back in the 1950s, Fabian had had such success with his weekly newspaper column relating exciting Scotland Yard investigations that it got turned into a television series called *Fabian of the Yard*. As ever, reality acquired a mythic dimension; even now, the words 'Scotland Yard' still evoke pea-soupers and bell-ringing car chases. In reality, the Metropolitan Police is readying itself for a future of cyber crime; this is now a world of data mining. None the less, all new recruits to the Yard must be very well aware that the institution still generates remarkable historical affection. ⊙

GET HOOKED

READ

The Scotland Yard Puzzle Book by Sinclair McKay (Headline, 2019)

STRANGER IN FICTION

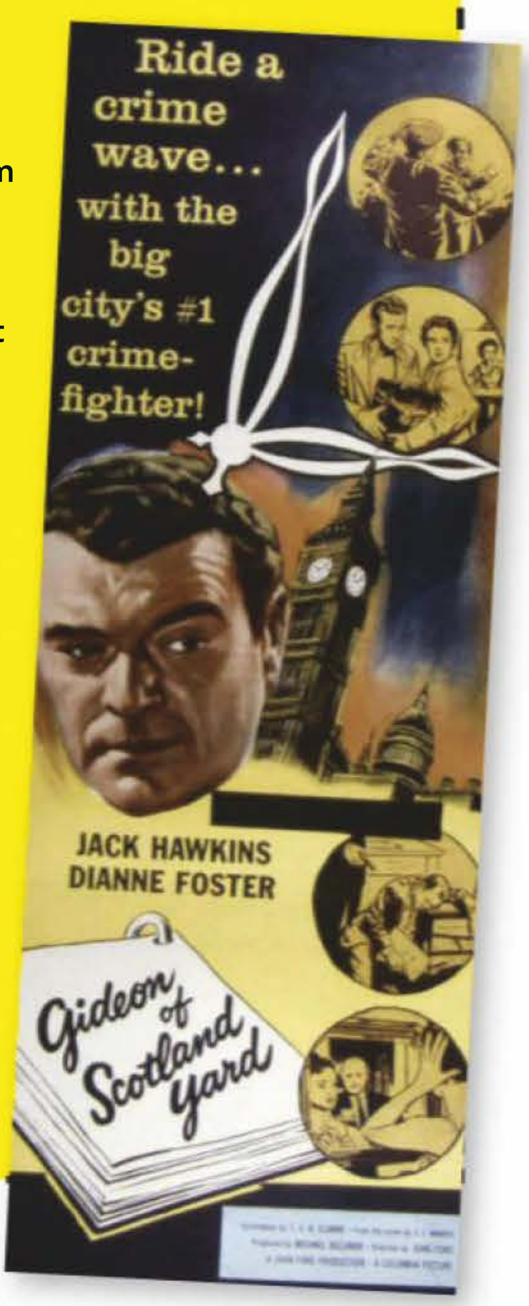


'Adam Dalgliesh' (Roy Marsden) appeared on the small screen in 1983

Even though 'the Yard' is a mainstay of popular detective fiction, its fictional personnel haven't always been treated with respect: most notoriously, Inspector Lestrade, a "little sallow, rat-faced" man, who was forever doomed to trail behind private detective Sherlock Holmes in Arthur Conan Doyle's immortal tales. In the main, though, inspectors have made intriguing literary characters. Sergeant Cuff, "who might have been a parson or an undertaker", is the driving force on the trail of a stolen diamond in a country house in Wilkie Collins's 1868 novel *The Moonstone*. In a burst of proto-feminism, Andrew Forrester's *The Female Detective* (1864) sees the Yard call upon the services of a woman – Miss Gladden, or 'G' – who solved seven mysteries in one volume.

The 1950s brought an injection of social realism from author John Creasy. His creation, Commander George Gideon, not only dealt with a wide variety of crimes, from tormented bomb plotters to racehorse fixing, but he managed a team who learned from his great experience. And he had a home life: a wife and children, all as a counterpoint to the sometimes nerve-fraying situations he found himself in. These were stories about the Yard as an institution; its fantastic record-keeping, and forensics, and admirable lack of cynicism when faced with the toughest of customers.

Perhaps the greatest recent recruiting sergeant to the real Yard has been PD James's much-loved detective Adam Dalgliesh, who featured in 14 of her novels. As well as his shrewd eye both for tell-tale details and for the hinterland of the human heart, Dalgliesh was a poet. Not only that, a published poet: here was a detective who understood passion.



Commander George Gideon appears in 26 crime novels

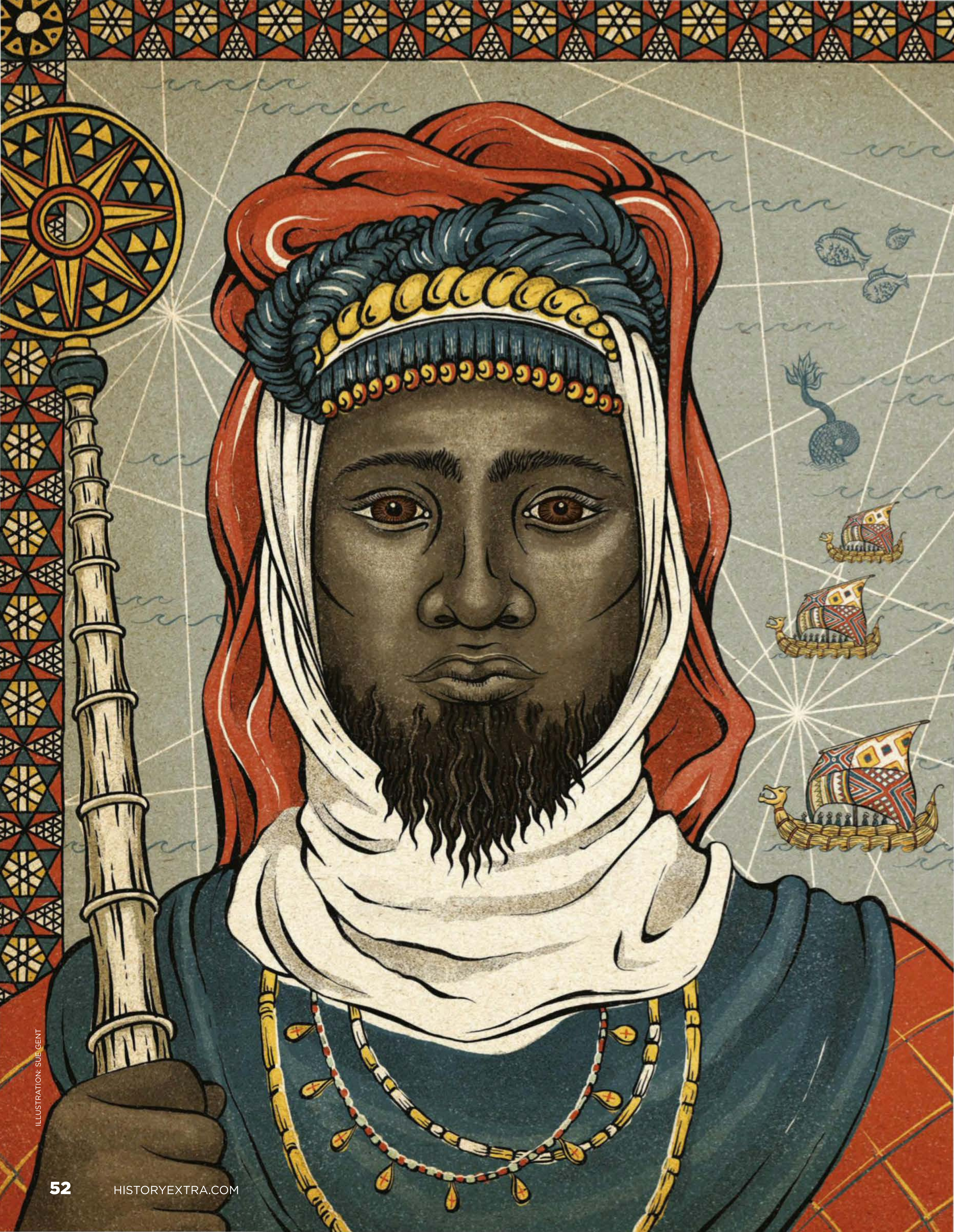
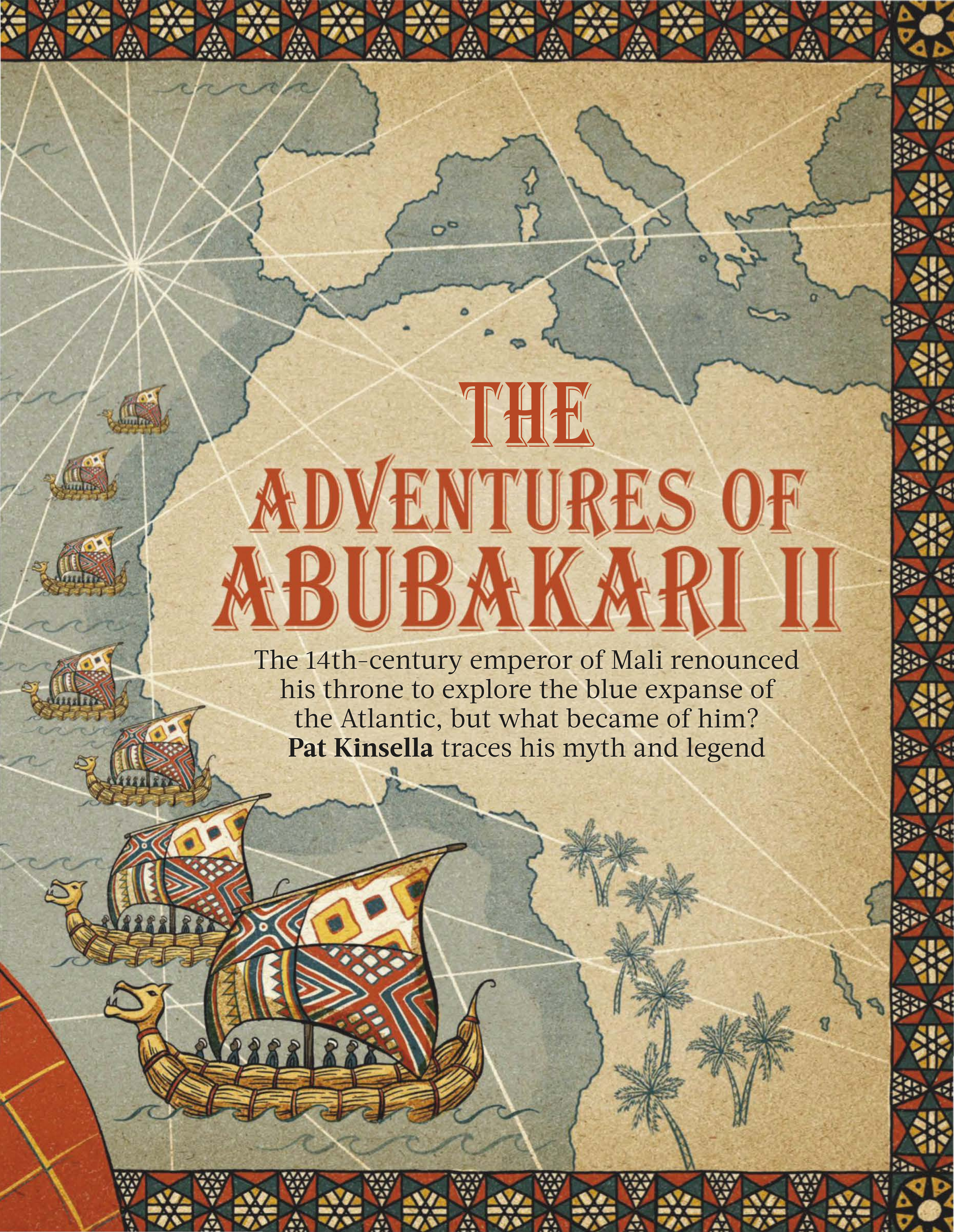
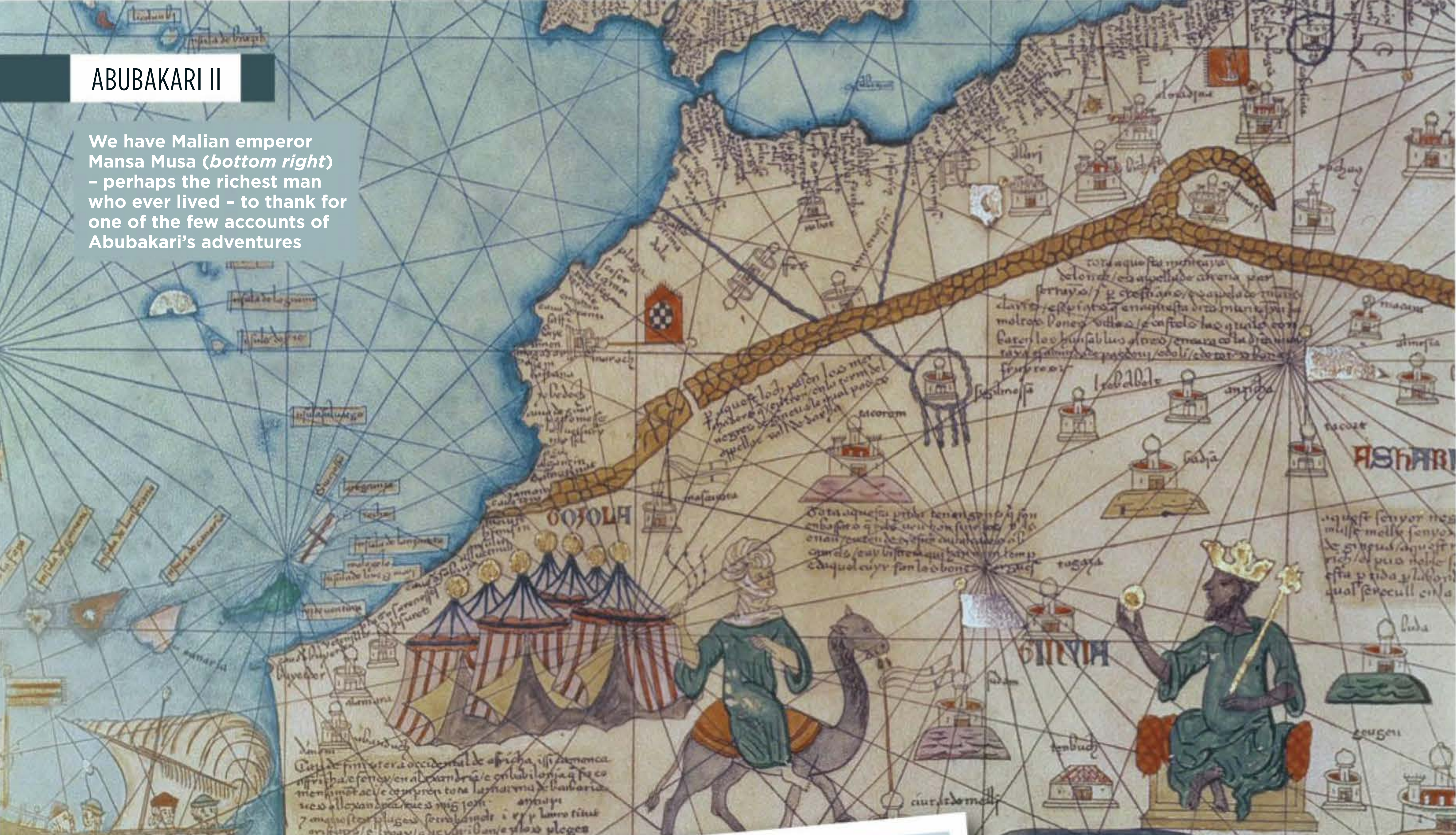


ILLUSTRATION: SUE GENT

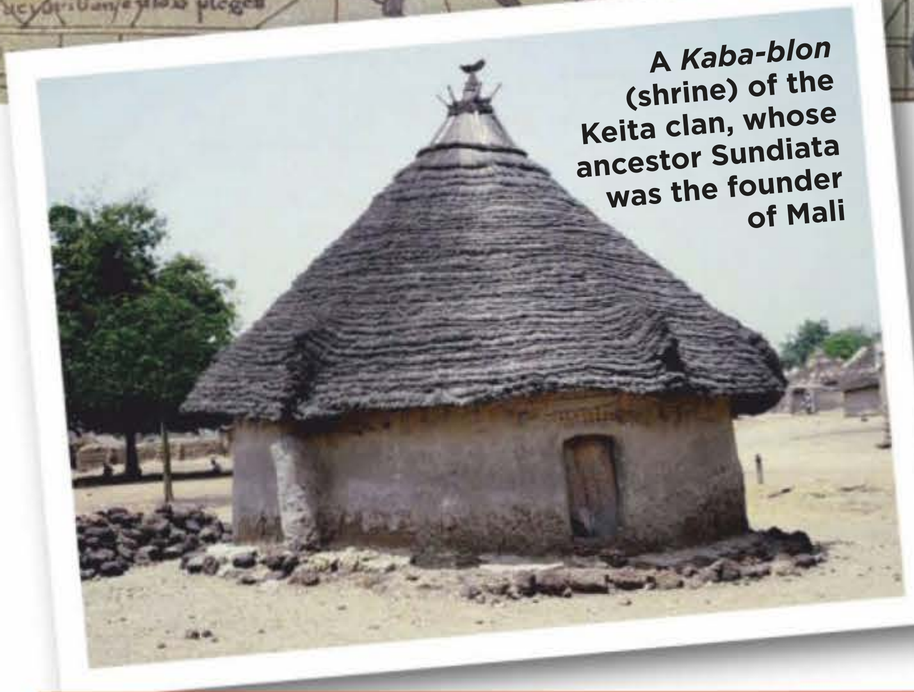


THE ADVENTURES OF ABUBAKARI II

The 14th-century emperor of Mali renounced his throne to explore the blue expanse of the Atlantic, but what became of him? **Pat Kinsella** traces his myth and legend



We have Malian emperor Mansa Musa (*bottom right*) – perhaps the richest man who ever lived – to thank for one of the few accounts of Abubakari's adventures



A *Kaba-blon* (shrine) of the Keita clan, whose ancestor Sundiata was the founder of Mali

When the words 'Africa' and 'explorer' are paired in a sentence, most people's minds immediately leap to the well-known European adventurers who famously felt their way around the 'Dark Continent' in the heady days of the 19th century. But Africa was populated by sophisticated civilisations and governed by advanced empires for centuries before the likes of David Livingstone and Henry Morton Stanley showed up, and these societies had homegrown explorers of their own – people who yearned to know what lay outside their realm and beyond the big blue horizon.

Chief among these – or so the story goes, because little remains in the form of written history – was a man called Abubakari II (also known as Abu Bakr II and Abu Bakari), who ruled Mali and a gold-rich area that incorporated most of West Africa in the 14th century. Life as the head of arguably the largest and wealthiest empire on the planet seemingly wasn't enough for Abubakari, however, and no amount of treasure could soothe his itchy feet.

WANDERING EMPEROR

A nephew (or possibly great nephew) of Sundiata Keita, founder of the mighty Mali Empire, Abubakari became the ninth 'mansa' (ruler) of the vast and immensely rich and powerful West African realm after a series of feuds and coups wiped out Keita's sons and heirs – both blood and adopted.

"HE WAS OBSESSED WITH FINDING OUT WHAT LAY BEYOND THE ATLANTIC"

Once installed as emperor, Abubakari became obsessed with finding out what lay beyond the vast Atlantic Ocean. Seemingly unwilling to accept that it was impossible to reach the far 'bank' of this great blue enormity, Abubakari dispatched a large expedition – comprising at least 200, and possibly up to 400 ships, depending on which source you believe – to search for the opposite shore. From this voyage, just one solitary vessel returned, with the surviving captain telling terrible tales about the other boats having been swept away by a colossal current and consumed by whirlpools.

Dismissive of this story, Abubakari apparently decided to set off himself, in the pursuit of knowledge and discovery. He assembled an even larger expeditionary fleet – allegedly ten times the size of the previous one – and passed control of the empire to his deputy Mansa Musa (an individual who is often described as his brother, and was also known as Kankou Moussa). In 1311, this immense armada – 2000 *pirogues* carrying crews of men and women, and loaded with livestock, food, drinking water and gold – set off from the coast of West Africa, from a spot now incorporated in modern-day Gambia.

The fleet sailed across the Atlantic waves, heading into the complete unknown, and were never seen again – at least not in the account told to a contemporary Arab historian by Mansa Musa nearly two decades later.

ALAMY X1, GETTY IMAGES X3

Written records of events in medieval Mali are scarce, with the vast majority of West African history being remembered through oral traditions and controlled by *griots* – traditional storytellers who have acted as keepers and teachers of knowledge for centuries. On the narrative of Abubakari II, however, the griots appear to have been somewhat tight-lipped.

Virtually the only account of this adventure comes from Arab-Egyptian scholar Chihab al-Umari, who encountered Abubakari's successor Mansa Musa during the latter's famously excessive pilgrimage to Mecca in 1324, some 13 years after he had been gifted control of the world's wealthiest empire. Al-Umari recorded the words of Mansa Musa about the ruler who had relinquished the crown to pursue a quixotic quest:

"The ruler who preceded me did not believe that it was impossible to reach the extremity of the ocean that encircles the Earth [the Atlantic], and wanted to reach that [end] and obstinately persisted in the design. So he equipped two hundred boats full of men, like many others full of gold, water and victuals sufficient enough for several years.

"He ordered the chief [admiral] not to return until they had reached the extremity of the ocean, or if they had exhausted the provisions and the water. They set out. Their absence extended over a long period, and, at last, only one boat returned. On our questioning, the captain said: 'Prince, we have navigated for a long time, until we saw in the midst of the ocean as if a big river was flowing violently. My boat was the last one; others were ahead of me. As soon as any of them reached this place, it drowned in the whirlpool and never came out. I sailed backwards to escape this current.'

"But the Sultan would not believe him. He ordered two thousand boats to be equipped for him and for his men, and one thousand more for water and victuals. Then he conferred on me the regency during his absence, and departed with his men on the ocean trip, never to return nor to give a sign of life."

FACT OR FABLE

The ultimate fate of Abubakari II and his fleet is shrouded in mystery, but while some historians cast doubt on the entire story (pointing in part to the unrealistic size of the supposed fleet) other scholars – including the Malian historian Gaoussou Diawara – believe that Abubakari did in fact travel all the way across the Atlantic, and successfully made landfall in South America. If true, this would place Abubakari II in the New World 140 years before Christopher Columbus was even born.

In his book *The Saga of Abubakari II*, Diawara claims the African explorer came ashore in Brazil, somewhere very close to the spot where the city of Recife is now situated. Another name for this area is 'Purnanbuco', which supporters of this theory suggest is an aberration of the Mande name for the rich gold fields that made the Mali Empire so incredibly wealthy: 'Boure Bambouk'.

Other historians also claim to have found indicators of African culture and influence in pre-Columbian America, both in the southern and northern parts of the conjoined continents, including in modern-day Mexico and Colorado. This has fuelled debate about travel and trade taking place between parts of western and northern Africa and the Americas many centuries before Europeans became involved in the New World.

In 1992, toxicologist Svetlana Balabanova found traces of cocaine and nicotine in the hair of a mummified Ancient Egyptian, Priestess Henut Taui of the 21st Dynasty (who would have lived around 1,000 BC). More traces discovered in other mummies from the same era prompted a furious debate (and some accusations of fakery) about how this could be possible given that the source plants for these drugs were not thought to have grown on the African continent until well after Columbus had travelled to and from the Americas.

There has also long been debate (some of it academic, but much of it amateur and highly speculative) about the similarities in the architectural design of pyramids found in Egypt and in advanced pre-Columbian American civilisations, including the Olmec, Aztec, Inca and Maya. However, these structures were built in completely different eras (some separated by thousands of years) and were used in different ways by various people.

More compelling, though, is evidence of human remains that appear to be of medieval African origin, but which seem to have been buried in the Americas a long time prior to the arrival of Columbus. Polish professor and craniologist (someone who studies human skulls) Andrzej Wiercinski has written about the discovery of 'African' skulls at Olmec sites in Tlatilco, Cerro de las Mesas and Monte Alban, and older

Giant stone heads with seemingly African features have also been found along the coast of Mexico

THE STORYTELLERS

In the culture of West Africa, *griots* are the guardians, keepers and teachers of history – storytellers (sometimes also singers and musicians) who pass on the details of significant events via an oral tradition.

Villages across the region would (and often still do) have their own resident griot, who is a repository of knowledge. Aristocratic families often had their own griots. Sundiata Keita, founder of the mighty Mali Empire and Abubakari II's uncle, had a griot called Balla Fasséké to advise him during his reign; Fasséké is considered the founder of the Kouyaté line of griots that still exists.

It has been suggested by some historians that Abubakari's act of abdication as emperor, handing over the responsibilities of power to Mansa Musa, was considered a disgrace, and as a consequence, griots almost completely wrote him out of their history.

Modern-day griots in Burkina Faso; did oral storytellers like these men 'write' Abubakari II out of history?

remains of apparent African descent have been unearthed throughout Central and South America, and even in California.

Eleven giant stone heads have also been found along the Gulf coast of Mexico, along with other artwork, all clearly depicting features that seem distinctly African. Carbon dating of some such remains in the 1950s placed them around 814 BC, around the time when and maritime trade and travel on (and possibly, according to this evidence, even across) the Atlantic was commonplace.

This remains a contentious realm, however, with historians continuing to debate the strength of the evidence pointing to interaction between Africa and the indigenous people of the Americas, and the vast majority of it is far removed from the enigmatic odyssey of Abubakari II.

“NOTHING CONCRETE IS KNOWN OF WHAT BECAME OF HIM”

CLUES FROM COLUMBUS

Perhaps the strongest indications that Abubakari II’s fleet (or even some of the ships from the earlier expedition he dispatched) had indeed reached the coast of South America come from the writing of Columbus himself.

In his 1920 book *Africa and the Discovery of America*, Professor Leo Wiener, Professor of Slavic Languages and Literatures from Harvard University, highlighted excerpts in the journals of the Italian explorer, where Columbus notes that the Native Americans he encountered claimed “black-skinned people had come from the southeast in boats, trading in gold-tipped spears”.

On his return route to Europe after his first expedition to the New World, in March 1493, Columbus was driven off course by a storm and ended up in Portuguese waters, where he eventually had a tense meeting with King John II of Portugal. During a dinner with this monarch, Columbus was apparently told (or perhaps taunted) about West Africans having travelled and traded with the indigenous peoples of the New World.

On his third voyage to the Americas – during which he followed the route supposedly used by the aforementioned Africans and made landfall on Trinidad and then mainland South America – Columbus acquired some of those spear tips, made with a yellow metal referred to as guanín. He seemingly took them back to Spain, where they were tested and found to comprise six parts silver, eight parts copper and 18 parts gold: the same mix as used in West Africa.

Other wandering Europeans, including Vasco Núñez de Balboa, also wrote about encountering ‘Negroes’ when they reached the New World, but nothing concrete is known about what ultimately became of Abubakari II and the thousands of men and women who allegedly accompanied him on his quest.

What is certain, is that the man he left in charge of the wealthiest realm on Earth had a lot to thank Abubakari II’s wandering spirit. Mansa Musa seized his good fortune with both hands, expanded his empire, expertly exploited Mali’s surplus of gold and the massive contemporary demand for it, and became the richest man of the era – very probably the richest man to have ever lived in comparative terms.

Thirteen years after being gifted the throne by his restless sibling, Mansa Musa undertook a journey himself – a pilgrimage to Mecca, during which he splashed so much cash that he devalued the rate of the gold dinar in the region, and accidently devastated several local economies en route. It’s said that he travelled with 60,000 men, all dressed in Persian silk, including 12,000 slaves, each carrying 1.8kg of gold, plus 80 camels, which each carried between 23kg and 136kg of gold dust. Gold was distributed to the poor along the way and dished out liberally in cities such as Timbuktu, Gao, Cairo and Medina.

Whether or not medieval Malians really made it across the Atlantic, the region’s reputation as one of the world’s wealthiest places was cemented by Mansa Musa during this journey – forging and stoking gold-plated stories that would later inspire European explorers to venture deep into Africa in search of treasure. ⊙

GET HOOKED

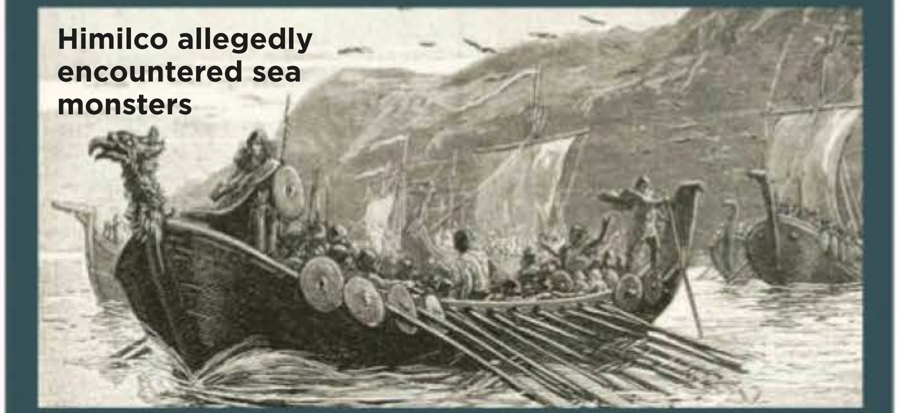
LISTEN

The Empire of Mali is discussed on an episode of *In Our Time*
www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b06kgggv

THREE MORE GREAT AFRICAN EXPLORERS

HIMILCO (6TH CENTURY BC)

▼ A Carthaginian explorer and navigator active in the late 6th century BC, Himilco was the first person to reach northwestern Europe from the Mediterranean. Although the first-hand account of his adventures has been lost, it is quoted by Roman writers including Pliny the Elder. Himilco seemingly sailed north along the Atlantic coast of present-day Spain, Portugal, England and France. He famously peppered his reports with terrifying stories about monsters, possibly to deter Greek rivals from trying to follow him.

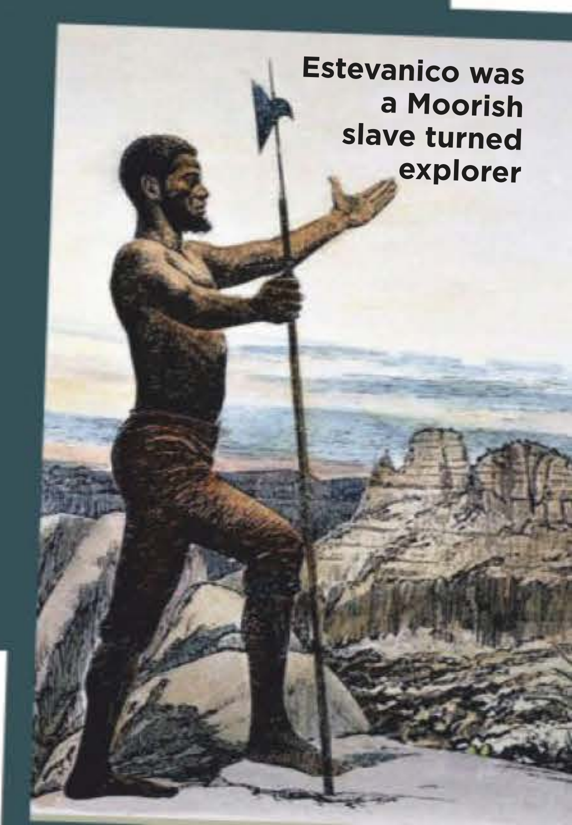

Himilco allegedly encountered sea monsters

JUAN GARRIDO (c1480–c1550)

From his birthplace in the West African Kingdom of Kongo (in modern-day DR of Congo and Angola), Juan Garrido travelled to Portugal and Seville in his youth, converted to Catholicism, took a Spanish name (meaning ‘Handsome John’) and joined an expedition to the Americas. As a conquistador he saw action in the 1508 invasion of Puerto Rico and then in Cuba in 1510, and later joined Hernán Cortés’ forces in Mexico, where he participated in the siege of the Aztec capital, Tenochtitlan. Garrido eventually married and started a family and a farm in Mexico City, where he’s credited with being the first person to sow wheat in the New World.

ESTEVANICO (1503–39)

▶ Moroccan-born Estevanico became an accidental explorer after being sold into slavery and taken on the 1527 Spanish Narváez expedition to ‘La Florida’. After five years of adventures and ordeals, the original 300-strong expeditionary force was reduced to just four survivors, including Estevanico. Under the guise of medicine men they travelled through tribal land, eventually reaching Mexico City in 1536. At the behest of the Viceroy of Mexico, Estevanico (now conversant in several indigenous languages) was part of an expedition to Arizona and New Mexico, during which he was killed.


Estevanico was a Moorish slave turned explorer

ALAMY X2

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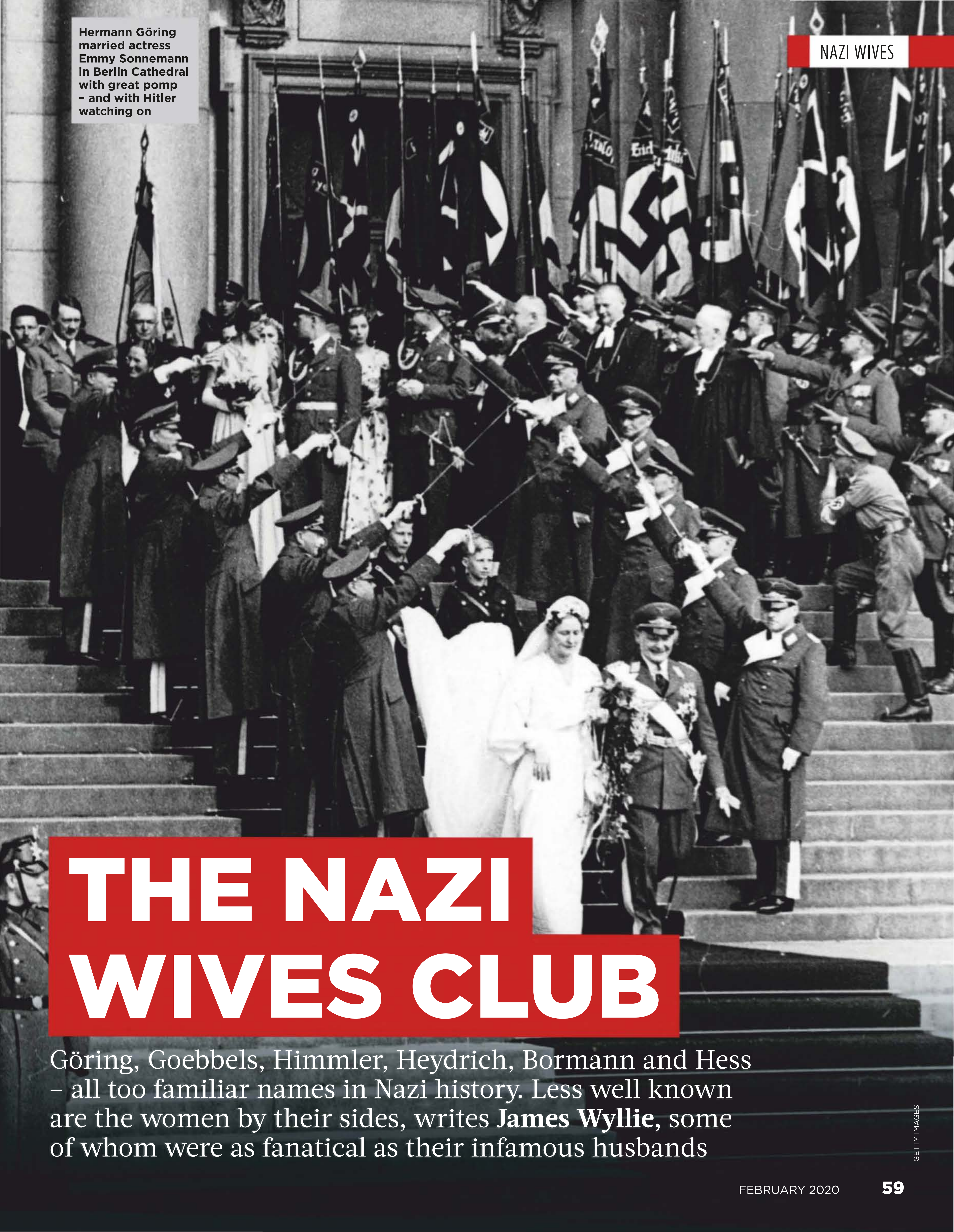


Hermann Göring married actress Emmy Sonnemann in Berlin Cathedral with great pomp – and with Hitler watching on

GETTY IMAGES

THE NAZI WIVES CLUB

Göring, Goebbels, Himmler, Heydrich, Bormann and Hess – all too familiar names in Nazi history. Less well known are the women by their sides, writes **James Wyllie**, some of whom were as fanatical as their infamous husbands

Actress Emmy favoured the spotlight and was quite at home at the opera in Berlin; she's pictured here with her husband Hermann in 1936

Three days before the end of the 1936 Berlin Olympics, Emmy Göring and her husband Hermann – who would become Hitler's second in command – held a spectacular event for hundreds of guests that featured a moonlit ballet, a fairground with roundabouts, a café and beer tents, and a procession of white horses, donkeys, and actors dressed as peasants.

This was not the first or last extravaganza hosted by Emmy and her husband during their years as one of the Reich's most prominent couples, parading around Berlin like an Emperor and Empress from ancient times. Emmy was suited to life in the spotlight: she'd been a professional actress for more than a decade by the time she met Göring in 1932, while he was still mourning the death of his first wife Carin, a devoted Nazi.

After Hitler seized power, Göring took control of the prestigious Berlin State Theatre and Emmy became lead actress, starring in several long-running comedies. Emmy finally quit the stage after she and Göring married in 1935 at a ceremony of royal proportions. According to the British Ambassador "the streets were decorated; all traffic was suspended. Whilst two hundred military aircraft circled in the sky".

Emmy's luxury lifestyle was bankrolled by her husband – besides Hitler, he was the wealthiest Nazi – who exploited his positions as both head of the air force and much of the rearmament programme to siphon cash from their budgets, which he topped up with illicit bribes from manufacturers keen to win contracts. Disinterested in her husband's day job, Emmy never questioned where all the money was coming from. She simply revelled in her role as one of the Reich's leading ladies.

KEEPING UP APPEARANCES

Three days after the Görings lorded it over their extravagant Olympic party, Magda and Joseph Goebbels (the latter being Hitler's propaganda maestro) presided over their own event to mark the climax of the Olympics. The setting was Peacock Island, a magical, wooded nature reserve with lanterns decorating tree-lined pathways. There was a barbecue, fireworks and a dance band.

These lavish events are just one example of the ongoing contest between the Goebbels and the Görings to win the hearts of the German people. Though the Goebbels could never quite match their rivals' grandeur, they had one distinct advantage: their close relationship with Hitler himself. Göring may have been one of the Führer's most faithful lieutenants, but Emmy was not an enthusiastic Nazi; nor was she particularly smitten by Hitler. Magda, on the other hand, was infatuated with Hitler, and he was fascinated by her.

This intimacy meant the threesome spent a lot of downtime together - whether sharing summer breaks or seasonal holidays – but this cosy arrangement had its drawbacks. The slow emergence of Eva Braun as Hitler's steady, if secret, girlfriend caused tension, as she and Magda were extremely jealous of each other. And then, when Magda and her husband's marriage hit the rocks due to his affair with a Czech actress, Hitler had no

"The emergence of Eva Braun as Hitler's girlfriend caused tension"

Magda Goebbels and her propaganda maestro husband Joseph were on intimate terms with Hitler

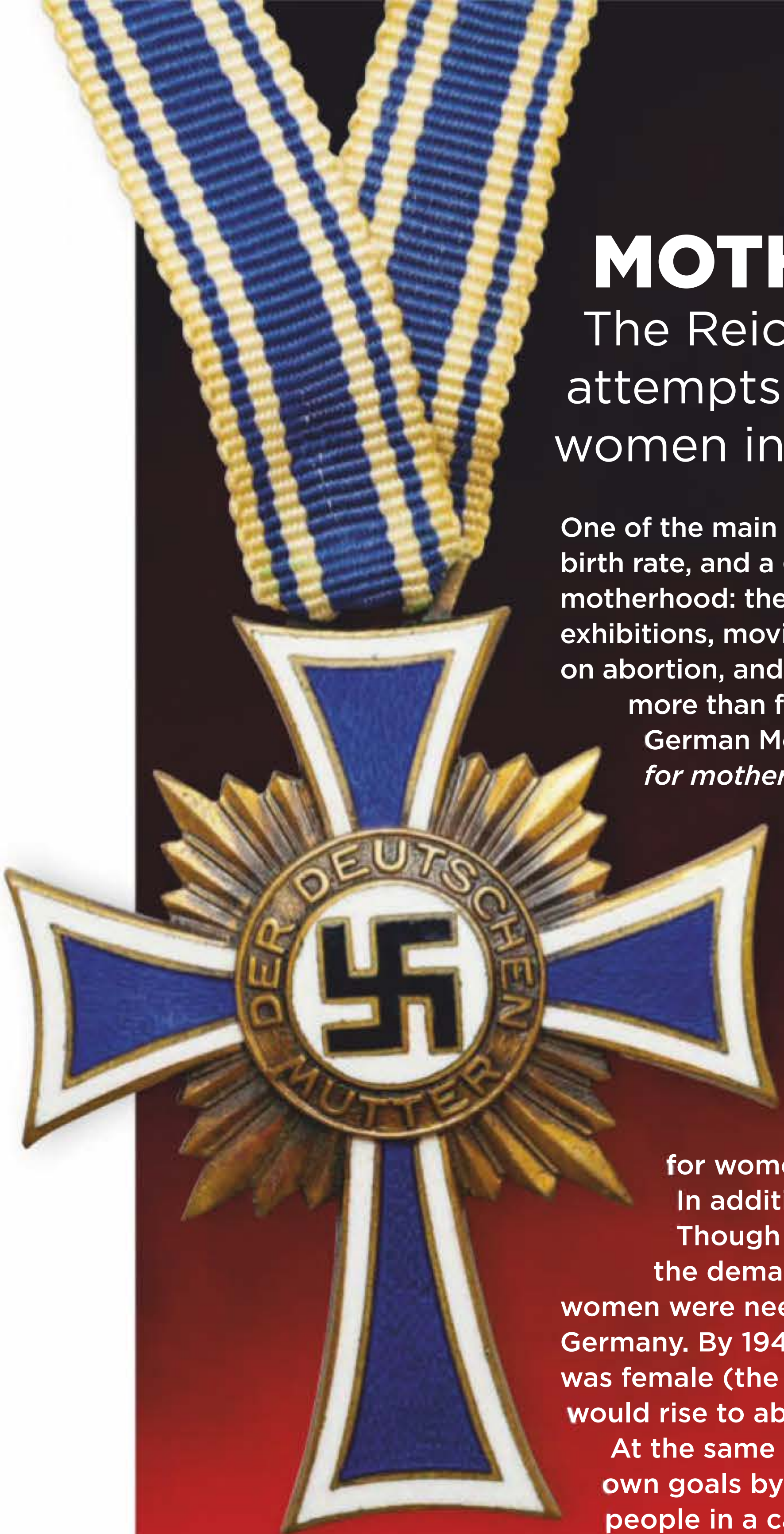
qualms about personally intervening and ordering them to stay together no matter what.

WARRING WIVES

Another less public rivalry than the one between Magda and Emmy was also being played out during the Olympics. By 1936, Margaret Himmler and Lina Heydrich's husbands ran the SS, the Gestapo and the civilian police, and together they made a formidable team, unlike their wives who were locked in a bitter struggle to be recognised as top SS wife.

Thanks to her husband, Margaret was the more senior wife and she was determined to make sure everybody in the SS clan respected that. Lina, however, resented playing second fiddle to a woman she considered to be her inferior, and called Margaret a "narrow minded humourless blonde". At one point, Margaret allegedly tried to force her husband to persuade Heydrich to dump Lina, but Himmler avoided the issue, unwilling to jeopardise his working relationship with Lina's husband.

At the Olympics, Lina entered first; she and Heydrich got much better seats and much better treatment throughout the games than Margaret and her husband. Their VIP status was due to the fact that Heydrich was on the German Olympic Committee; as an accomplished fencer and athlete, he was chosen to represent the regime. For two weeks – and at the earlier Winter Olympics – Lina enjoyed the private aircraft and fleets of cars that whisked her around, and relished the stunning banquet thrown by the



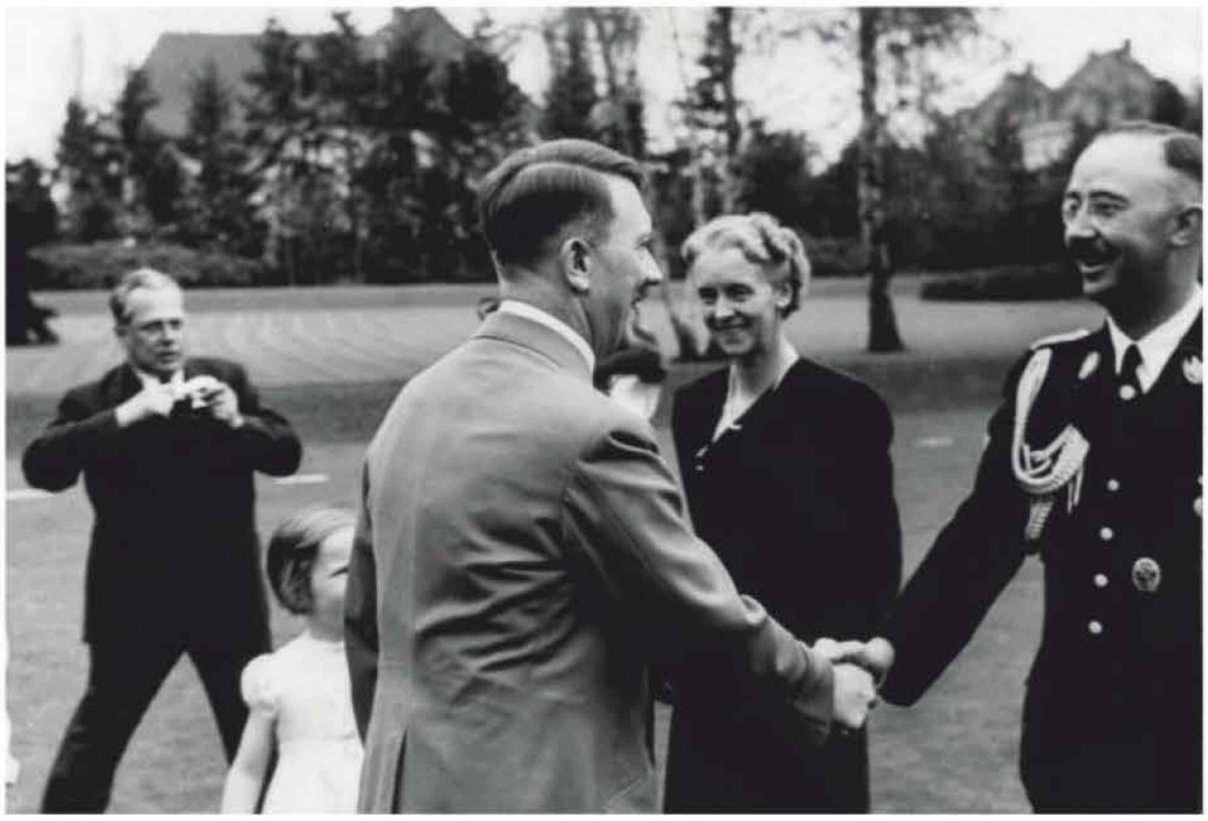
MOTHER'S RUIN

The Reich made several attempts to push German women into motherhood…

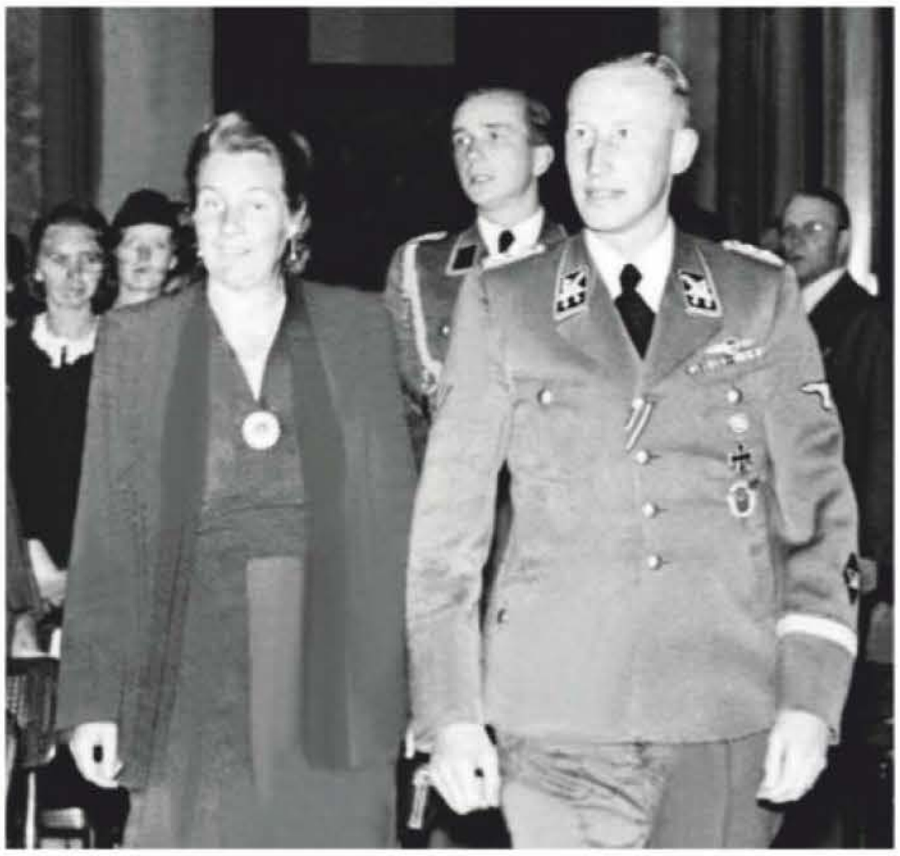
One of the main priorities of Nazism was raising the birth rate, and a great deal was done to promote motherhood: there were pregnancy classes, art exhibitions, movies, financial incentives, a crackdown on abortion, and even medals for women who had more than four children: the Honour Cross of the German Mother (*shown left is the bronze medal, for mothers with four or five offspring – to get the gold, you needed at least eight*).

But the number of women having three or more children actually declined during the Third Reich. The Nazis' failure to achieve their aims was connected to the fact that fewer women were getting married and more were getting divorced, especially after a 1938 law made it easier for women to separate from their husbands. In addition, more women were working. Though the Reich wanted them at home, the demands of rapid rearmament meant that women were needed in factories and offices across Germany. By 1940, around a third of the labour force was female (the same as in the Weimar period); it would rise to above 50 per cent.

At the same time, the Nazis undermined their own goals by sterilising hundreds of thousands of people in a campaign that targeted those with hereditary conditions, such as epileptics, alcoholics and the "congenitally feeble-minded" – the latter including prostitutes, beggars and the homeless.



Margaret Himmler watches on as Hitler greets her husband Heinrich, one of the main architects of the Holocaust – though she would later lay all the blame on the Führer



Lina Heydrich – wife of Nazi top brass Heinrich – maintained an (un)healthy rivalry with Himmler's wife Margaret

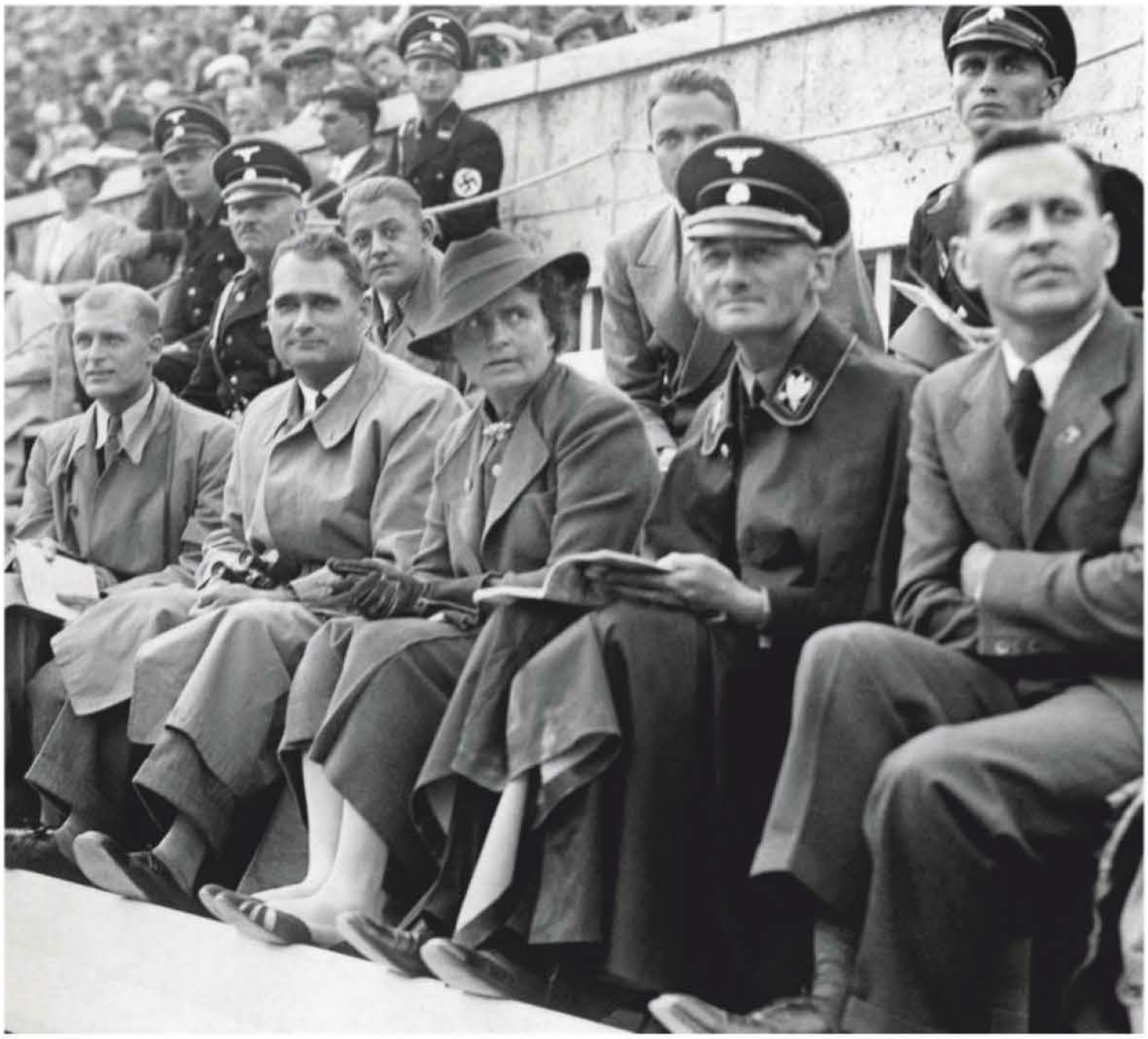
ALAMY X1, BRIDGEMAN IMAGES X1, GETTY IMAGES X3

International Olympic Committee to celebrate the opening of the games.

As the athletics got under way in the Olympic stadium, Ilse Hess and her husband Rudolf – the Nazi Party deputy leader – watched a number of events from their front row seats. Yet despite Ilse and her husband's longevity in the movement (they had fallen under Hitler's spell in 1920 when they were just students) and absolute faith in his ideology, they did not bother to stage any official functions or glittering parties during the competition; that just wasn't their style.

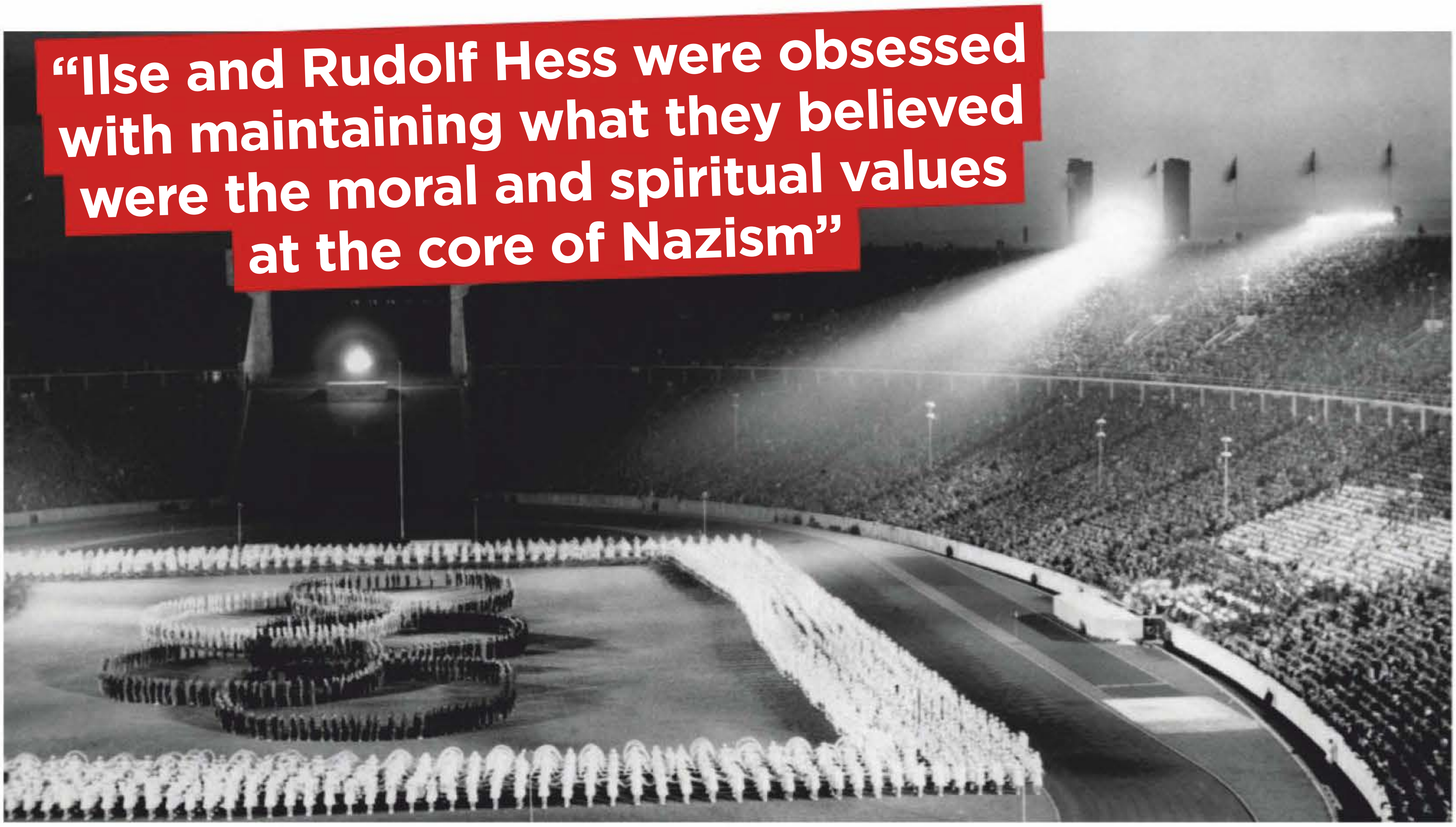
Ilse and Hess were obsessed with maintaining what they believed were the moral and spiritual values at the core of Nazism and to remain untainted by the corruption that flourished within the leadership cadre. They stuck to a modestly comfortable middle-class lifestyle; Ilse told her husband that they'd "never sell" their "birthright as idealists for the sake of external things".

And so Ilse kept her public appearances to the minimum required, whether it be the party rally in Nuremberg, the annual Wagner jamboree at the Bayreuth Festival, or performing civic duties. Nevertheless, Ilse remained active behind the scenes and her often patronising and judgemental attitude grated on many,



Ilse Hess joined her husband Rudolf (*seated to her right*) in the front row of at the 1936 Olympics, though as a rule she eschewed the limelight the other wives enjoyed so much

> **"Ilse and Rudolf Hess were obsessed with maintaining what they believed were the moral and spiritual values at the core of Nazism"**



The opening ceremony of the 1936 Olympics, the first Games to be televised; in keeping with Nazi ideals, German Jews were largely prevented from taking part in the competition

AKG-IMAGES X1, GETTY IMAGES X3

CRIMES AGAINST FASHION

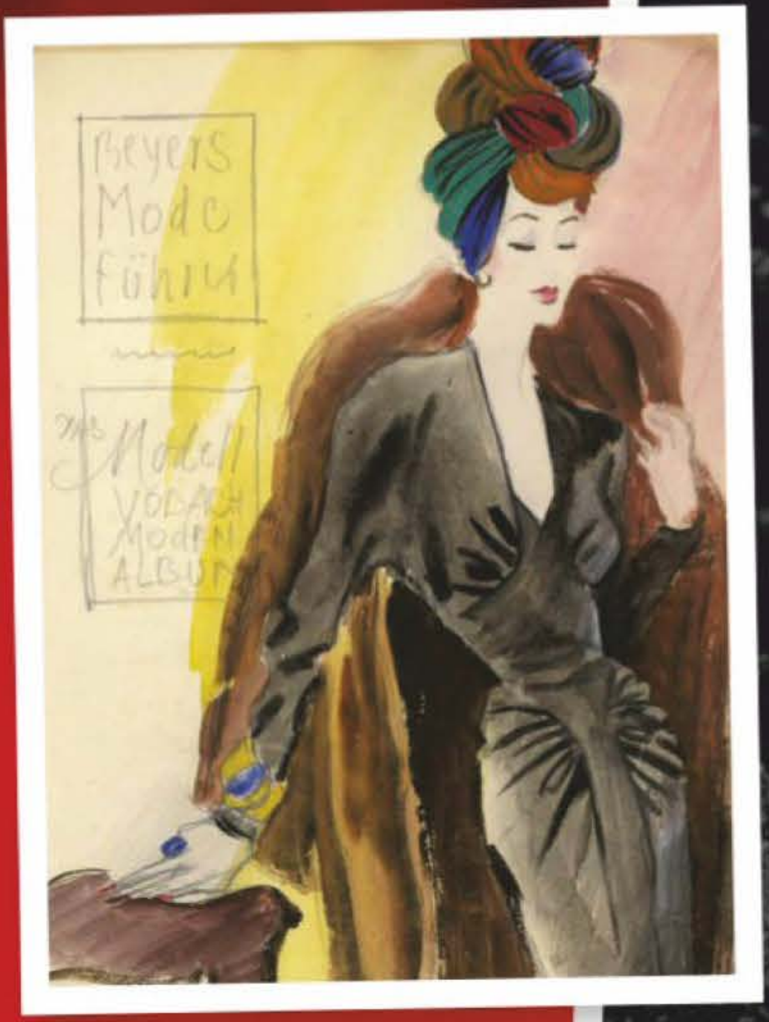
At home, the Nazi's launched a war on clothes and cosmetics, but German women only paid it lip service

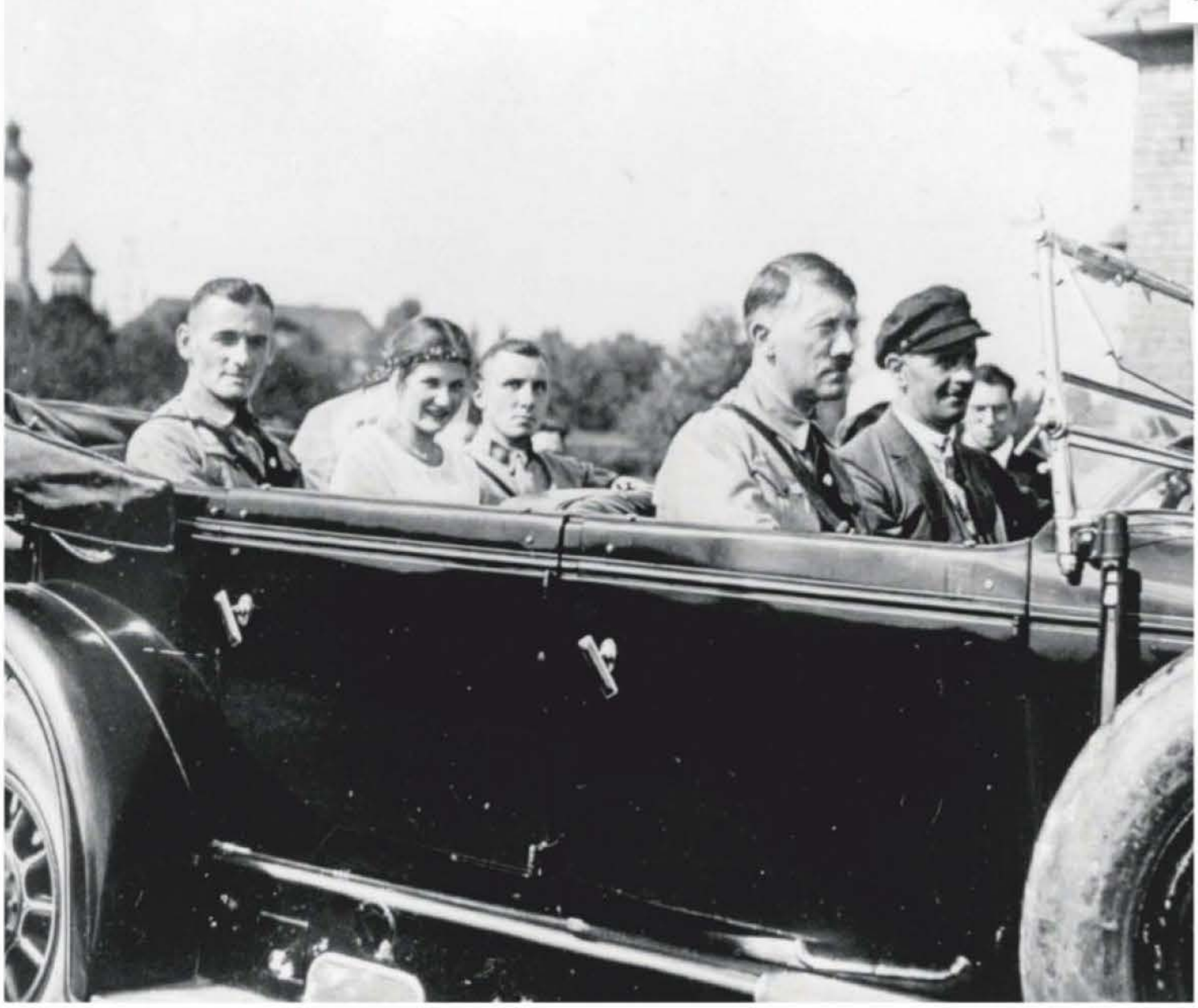
In their efforts to remake German women, the Nazis tried to change the way they dressed, focussing their attention on the malign influence of 'foreign' fashion – clothes made by Parisian designers or worn by Hollywood stars – which was considered decadent and immoral.

The Nazis wanted women to adopt traditional folk costumes like the *dirndl (left)* but most of them preferred to get fashion tips from the glossy magazines that remained in circulation, with their photoshoots of models in elegant evening gowns and problem pages that discussed whether long hair or short hair was best.

Equally futile was the Nazis attempt to stop women using cosmetics and make-up, and cultivate a more "natural" look. This demand was impossible to enforce, and while some women did throw away their lipstick, the majority continued to wear it.

However, the war put intolerable strains on the economy, causing chronic shortages and supply problems; sacrifices had to be made. In 1943, the Nazis banned the sale and manufacture of cosmetics. From then on women had to rely on the black market. The Nazis had also halted the production of sanitary towels, and women had to come up with homemade alternatives.





Gerda Bormann on her wedding day, sandwiched between her new husband – Hitler's right-hand man – and her father. The Führer, a regular guest in her home, occupies the front passenger seat

including Hitler, who couldn't bear women expressing opinions of any kind.

Ironically, the wife who most closely resembled the Nazis' ideal woman – Gerda Bormann – wasn't even at the 1936 Olympics. Gerda had ten children, confined herself to domestic matters, and was totally subservient to her husband Martin Bormann – Hitler's right-hand man and problem solver.

Gerda first met Hitler when she was only 12 years old. Her father, a career soldier, was a committed Nazi and Hitler was a frequent visitor to their home. Aged 19, after a brief courtship, she married Bormann: Gerda's whole life had taken place in a Nazi bubble, and it was precisely because she was such a model housewife and mother that she stayed away from the Olympics.

THE GAMES END

Overall, the 1936 Olympics was a significant success for the Nazis. Four years later, the games were cancelled: Europe was at war. But as the conflict progressed and the Allies began closing in on victory, the wives may well have been wondering what price they would have to pay for the regime's annihilation of the Jews.

Continues on p66

GERD HARTUNG/AKG-IMAGES X1

THE GLITZ & THE GLAMOUR

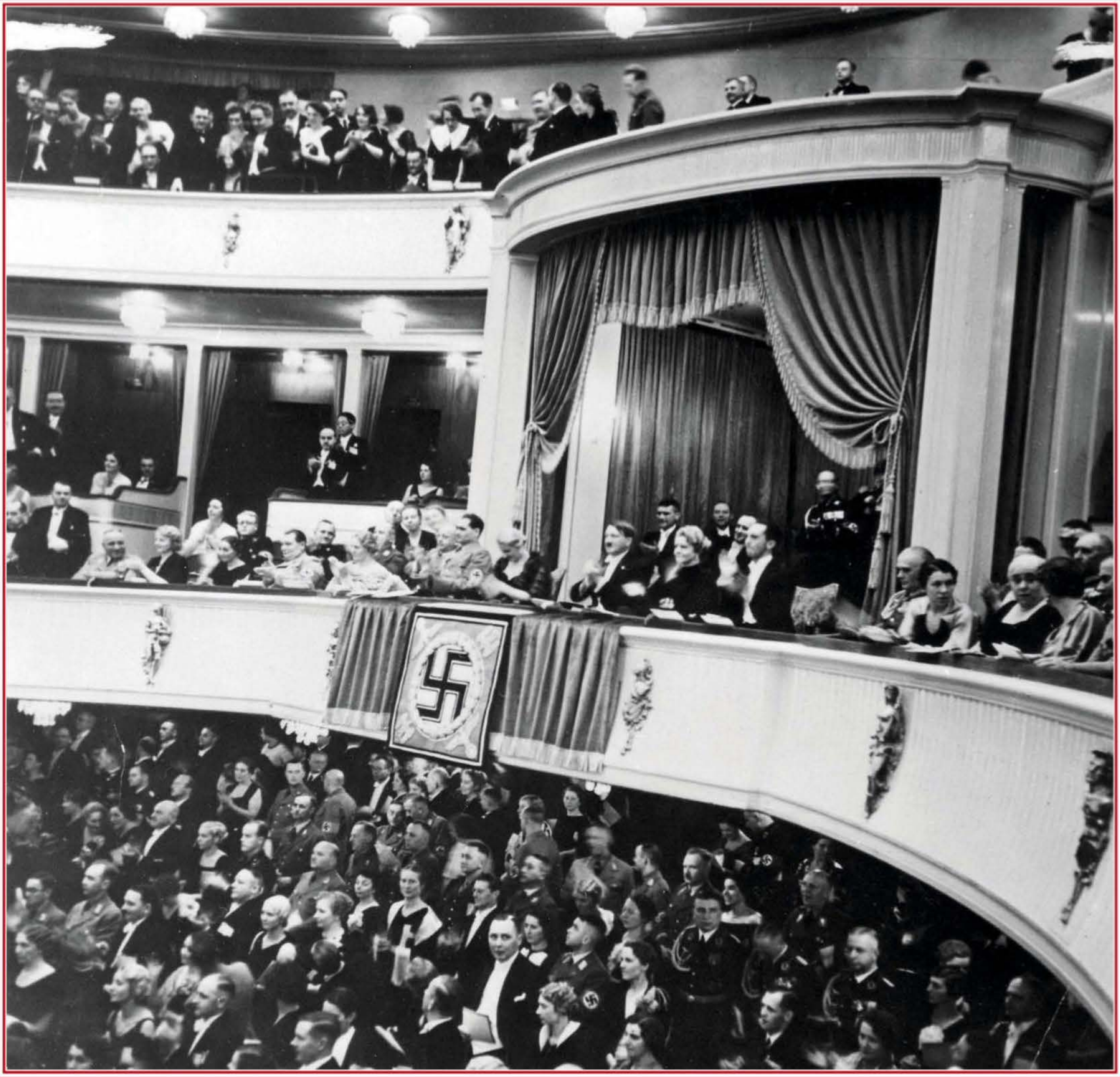
The spouses of the most powerful men in the Nazi regime certainly knew how to live well

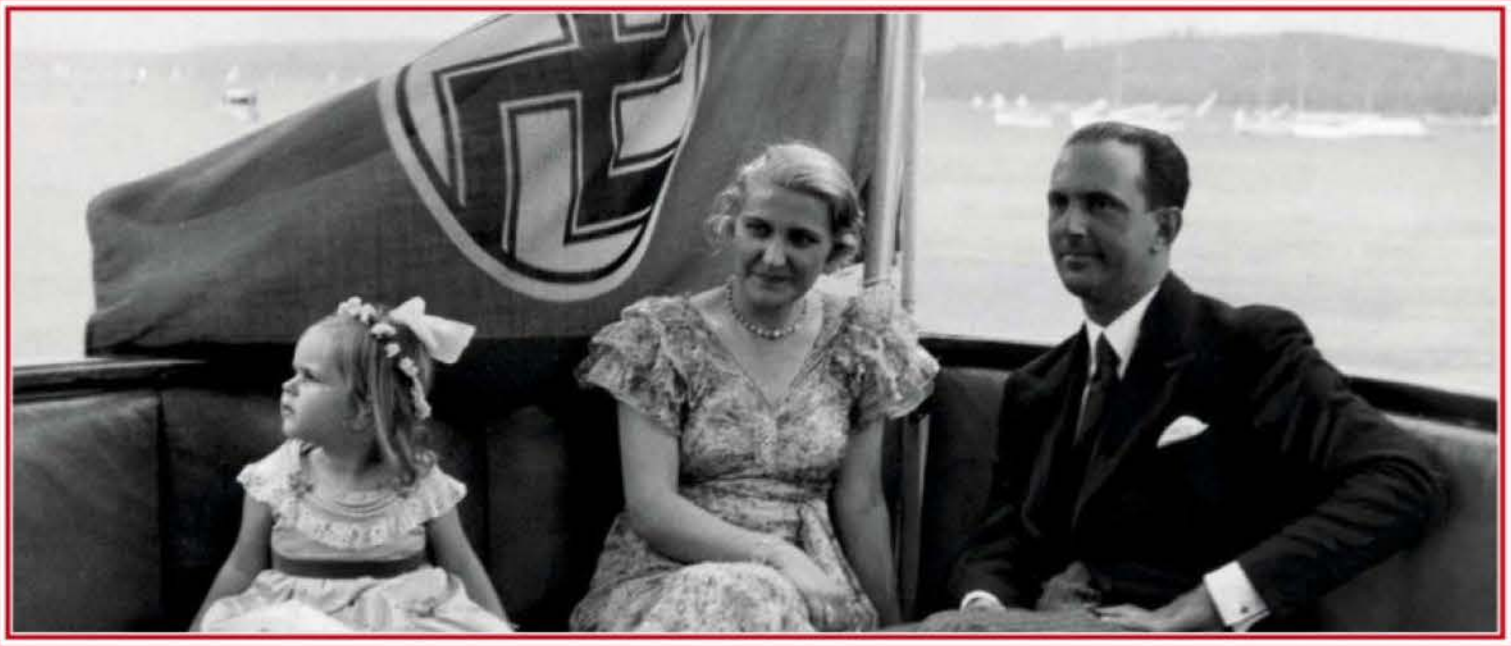
1. **Emmy Göring cuddles her pet lion cub as her husband (*right*) and Hitler's Axis-ally Benito Mussolini (*left*) look on**

2. **Joseph and Magda Goebbels at the 1939 Venice Film Festival**

3. **Private reception for Nazi leaders and artists at the house of Foreign Minister Joachim von Ribbentrop in Berlin– with the wives in front-row seats**

GETTY IMAGES X4, TOPFOTO X1





4. **At a performance of Richard Wagner's *Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg* in Berlin. In the front row of the box are Hermann and Emmy Göring, Rudolf Hess, Magda Goebbels, Ilse Hess, Joseph Goebbels and, of course, Hitler**

5. **Magda Goebbels with Prince Umberto II of Savoyen and her daughter Hilde during a boat trip in Berlin**

By spring 1942, all the key figures in the regime knew that the Final Solution had been set in motion; by the following summer the death camps had accounted for the vast majority of the victims of the Holocaust. Hitler had forbidden his cohorts from mentioning the subject to their wives. Whether they did or not is impossible to know for sure; even if this ghastly topic did not feature in their diaries or letters, it still could have cropped up in private conversation.

Both Ilse Hess and Lina Heydrich later claimed their husbands couldn't have known about the Final Solution because they were no longer on the scene when it began. In May 1941, Ilse's husband flew on a doomed solo mission to Scotland to make peace between Germany and the UK. He was immediately apprehended and spent the rest of the war in captivity.

Because Hess was absent during the Holocaust, he was spared the hangman's noose at the post-war Nuremberg Trials. Instead, Hess was given life imprisonment, a sentence Ilse fought to overturn for the next 40 years until her husband's suicide in 1987.

On 27 May 1942, Heydrich was attacked on the outskirts of Prague by Czech agents – trained and parachuted in by the British – and subsequently died of his wounds. On that basis, Lina denied that Heydrich had any responsibility for the Holocaust, even though he'd ordered the slaughter of hundreds and thousands of Jews and other civilians before the gas chambers had came into operation – and had given his seal of approval to the Final Solution. Yet Lina insisted that her husband was not fully aware of what was being planned and declared that he'd died with his honour intact.

Margaret Himmler chose to put all the blame on Hitler's shoulders. Whatever her husband may or may not have done, he was just following the Führer's orders, she said. She also claimed total ignorance when questioned about what she knew. Yet Margaret was the only leading wife to have seen inside the concentration camp system; she visited Dachau several times to inspect its huge herb garden and also toured Ravensbrück, the women's camp. Rather than comment on the experience, Margaret chose to stay silent.

Despite the overwhelming evidence against Göring, Emmy refused to believe her husband had had anything to do with Nazi war crimes. From early on, Emmy had gone out of her way to protect Jewish friends and showbiz colleagues, using Göring's power as

Ilse Hess looks relieved at her husband's safe return after the Zugspitze Mountain Flying Race in 1934 (he won); 1941 would see the keen aviator fly to Britain to try and make peace without Hitler's knowledge

WHAT ABOUT EVA?

In 1929, Hitler met a pure-blonde, athletic looking teenager called Eva Braun. Though Hitler was already in a relationship with Geli Raubel – his half-niece – he befriended Eva. Their casual flirtation became much more serious after Geli's death in 1931; soon after, Eva became Hitler's secret lover.

Up until 1935, Hitler had rarely had time for Eva. Feeling rejected and abandoned, Eva's isolated situation only changed after her second suicide attempt. Hitler finally took notice; he brought Eva out of hiding and gave her the room adjoining his at the Berghof, his palatial residence in the Bavarian mountains.

Eva slowly established herself as the lady of the house. However, she wasn't allowed to meet visiting VIPs or anybody outside of the inner circle. As Hitler was always surrounded by people, they were hardly ever alone together. In the last years of the war, Eva filled her days shooting home movies, swimming and hosting tea parties. But in April 1945, she decided to join Hitler in his Berlin bunker and stay with him to the end. The day before they took their lives, Hitler and Eva married; the unknown mistress had guaranteed her place in history. She was 33 years old.

ALAMY X2, GETTY IMAGES X2, SHUTTERSTOCK X1

As the wives of the second and third most important German Nazis, Emmy Göring (*right*) and Magda Goebbels (*left*) often appeared at official functions

“Early on, Emmy Göring had gone out of her way to protect Jewish friends and showbiz colleagues, using her husband’s power as leverage”

The wives had varying reactions to the their husbands’ complicity in the killings at concentration camps like Ravensbruck (*above*), with the dominant theme being a complete denial of any wrongdoing

A widowed Lina Heydrich in 1942, after her husband Reinhard had been shot and killed by Czech and Slovak soldiers

leverage. But as his authority ebbed away (Göring had been blamed for the Luftwaffe’s failure to subdue Britain and prevent Allied air raids) Emmy was no longer capable of helping anybody. Of all the top wives, she was the only one to express any guilt or regret about what had been done in Hitler’s name, and acknowledged that when she and her husband “saw injustices being done” they should “have put up stronger resistance, especially … over the Jewish question”.

Magda Goebbels was under no illusions about the scale of the genocide being perpetrated; her husband couldn’t keep the secret to himself. Shocked and dismayed, Magda confided in her closest female friend without revealing anything too specific. She kept her counsel right to the end, though she found the burden almost unbearable. By spring 1945, Magda had given in to the apocalyptic fatalism that overwhelmed many Germans, not just the Nazi elite, as the Soviet army bore down on them.

On 1 May 1945, rather than face what was to come, Magda and her husband took their own lives, having arranged the murder of their six children – they were poisoned in their sleep – a few hours earlier. In her last surviving letter, Magda wrote that it was better for them to die than live in a world without Hitler. But behind the rhetoric was a deeper fear; that if they survived, her children would be forever associated with the most horrific crime in human history. ⊙

GET HOOKED

READ

Nazi Wives: The Women at the Top of Hitler’s Germany by James Wyllie (The History Press, 2019)

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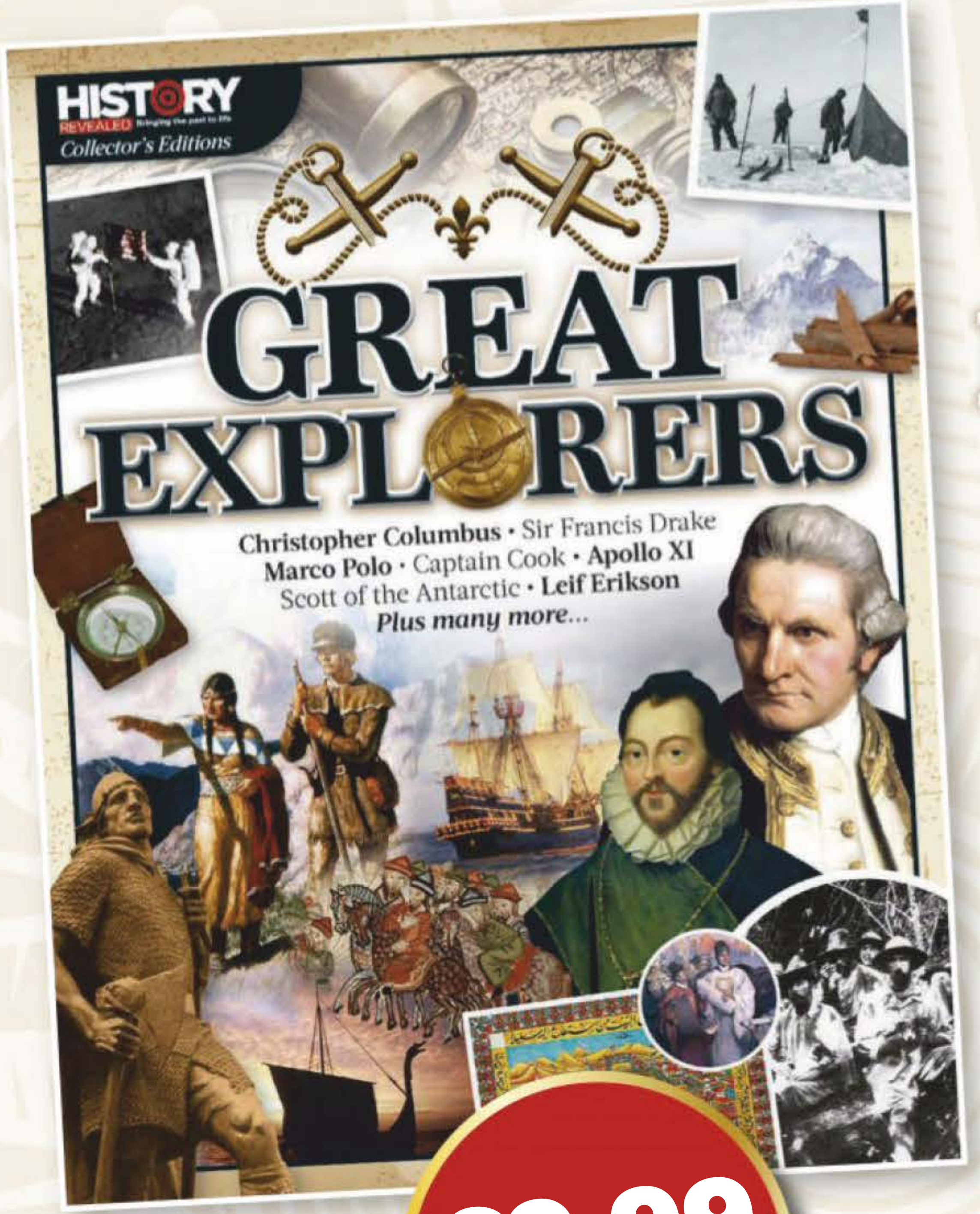
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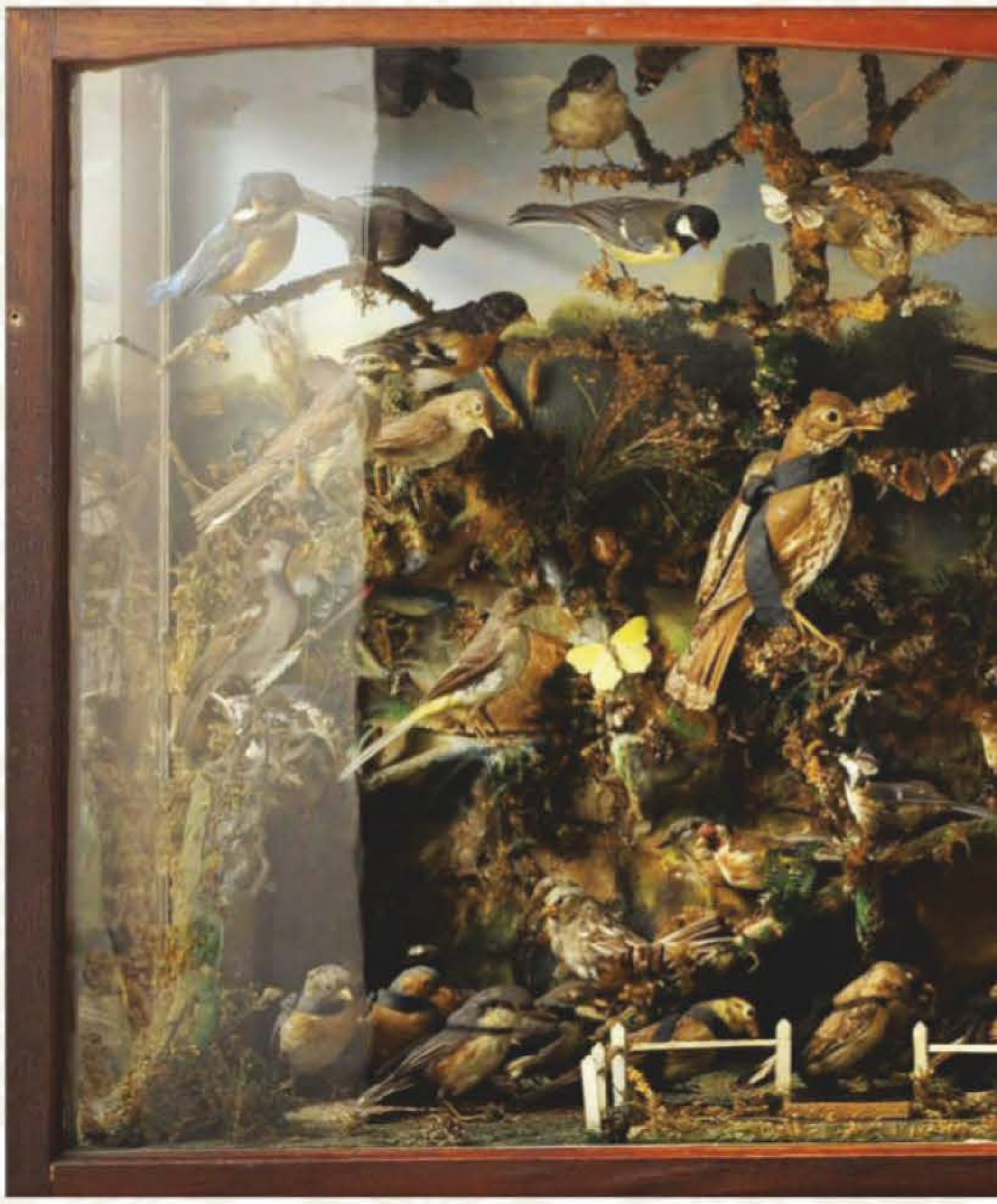
THE WEIRD WORLD OF WALTER POTTER

Charlotte Hodgman explores the Victorian fascination with taxidermy through the whimiscal works of one of the era's most unusual artists

ALAMY

In 2003, some 6,000 extraordinary works of Victorian taxidermy were auctioned at Bonhams in London – the life's work of one man, Walter Potter (1835-1918). The vast collection of stuffed animals included several works of anthropomorphic tableaux – animals posed in detailed novelty scenes, as if they were tiny humans – which was a style of taxidermy popular in the late 19th century. These works, some carefully planned with cardboard figures until the correct animals were sourced, feature a host of curious spectacles – including a kitten wedding and police-rats raiding an illegal gambling den – and shed light on aspects of Victorian life, from fashion to education.

Potter had no formal training as a taxidermist, yet the distinctive and creative nature of his works has ensured their legacy. His collection went on public display in 1861, in a small museum in Bramber, West Sussex, run by Potter himself and later his daughter. Between 1972 and 2003, the collection moved several times, ending up at Jamaica Inn on Bodmin Moor, Cornwall, before its final auction.



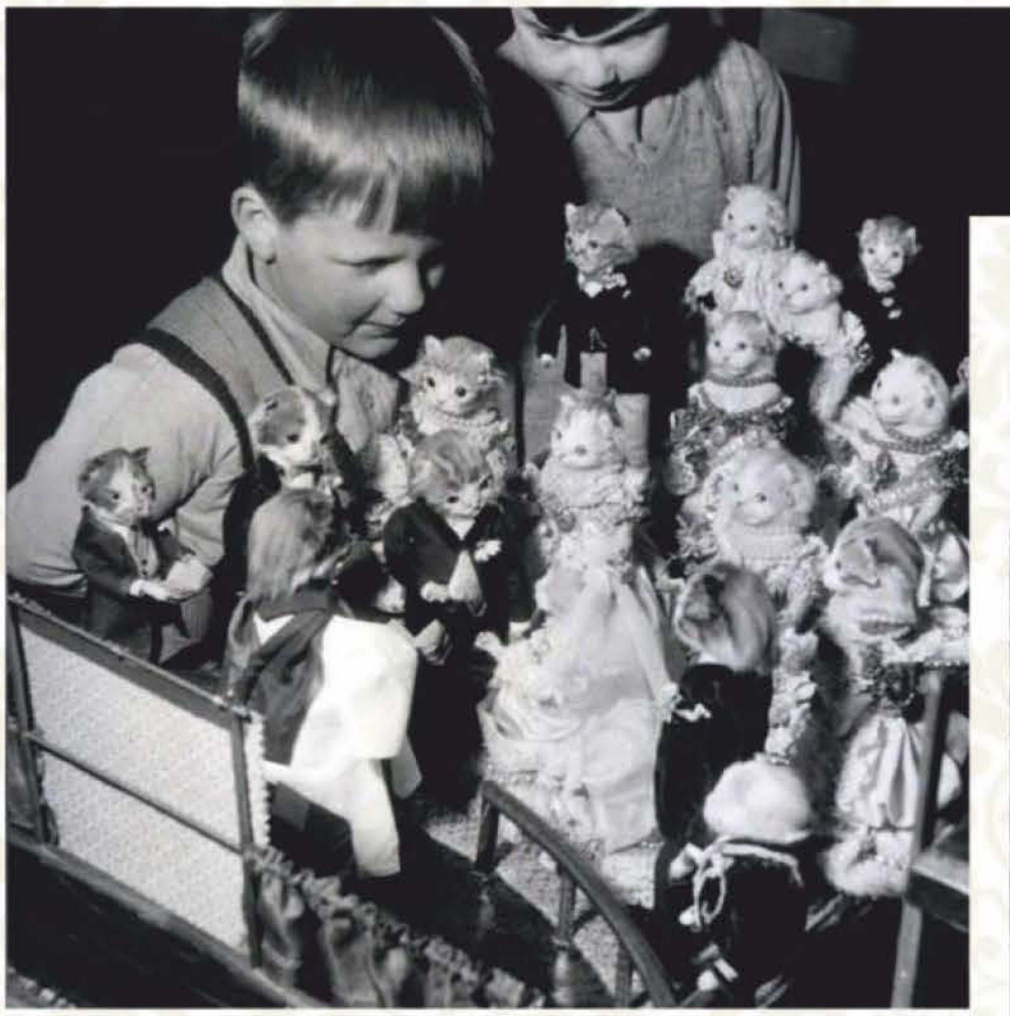
'THE DEATH AND BURIAL OF COCK ROBIN', c1861

▲ At nearly two metres wide, this tableau – Potter's first and largest – took him nearly seven years to create, starting from the age of 19. Inspired by a nursery rhyme of the same name, the piece includes 98 bird specimens, all of which appear in the poem. The only absentee is a kite, which would have dwarfed the other birds in the scene and been hard to source. The birds – and bull – have formed a funeral cortège for the murdered Cock Robin, whose rhyme begins:

Who kill'd Cock Robin?
I, said the Sparrow, With my bow and arrow,
And I kill'd Cock Robin

WALTER POTTER, AGED ABOUT 80

◀ Potter, pictured here holding a fox he had stuffed himself, left school at 14 to help his publican father, but learned how to preserve birds and animals in his spare time.



SPELLBOUND OBSERVERS, 1950s

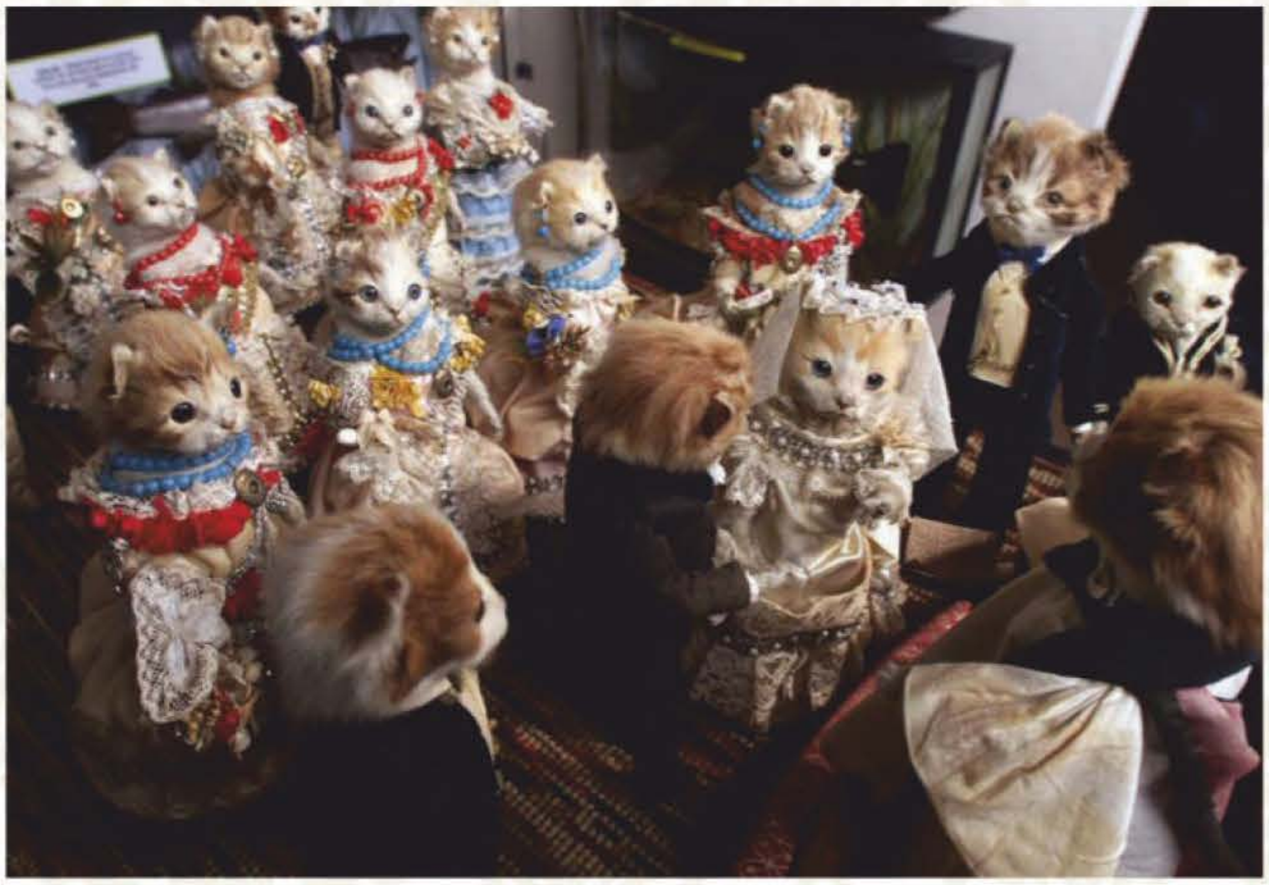
▲ Children get up close to one of Potter's anthropomorphic creations, 'The Kittens' Wedding'.

MUSEUM
SUNDAYS EXCEPTED
OPEN
DAILY

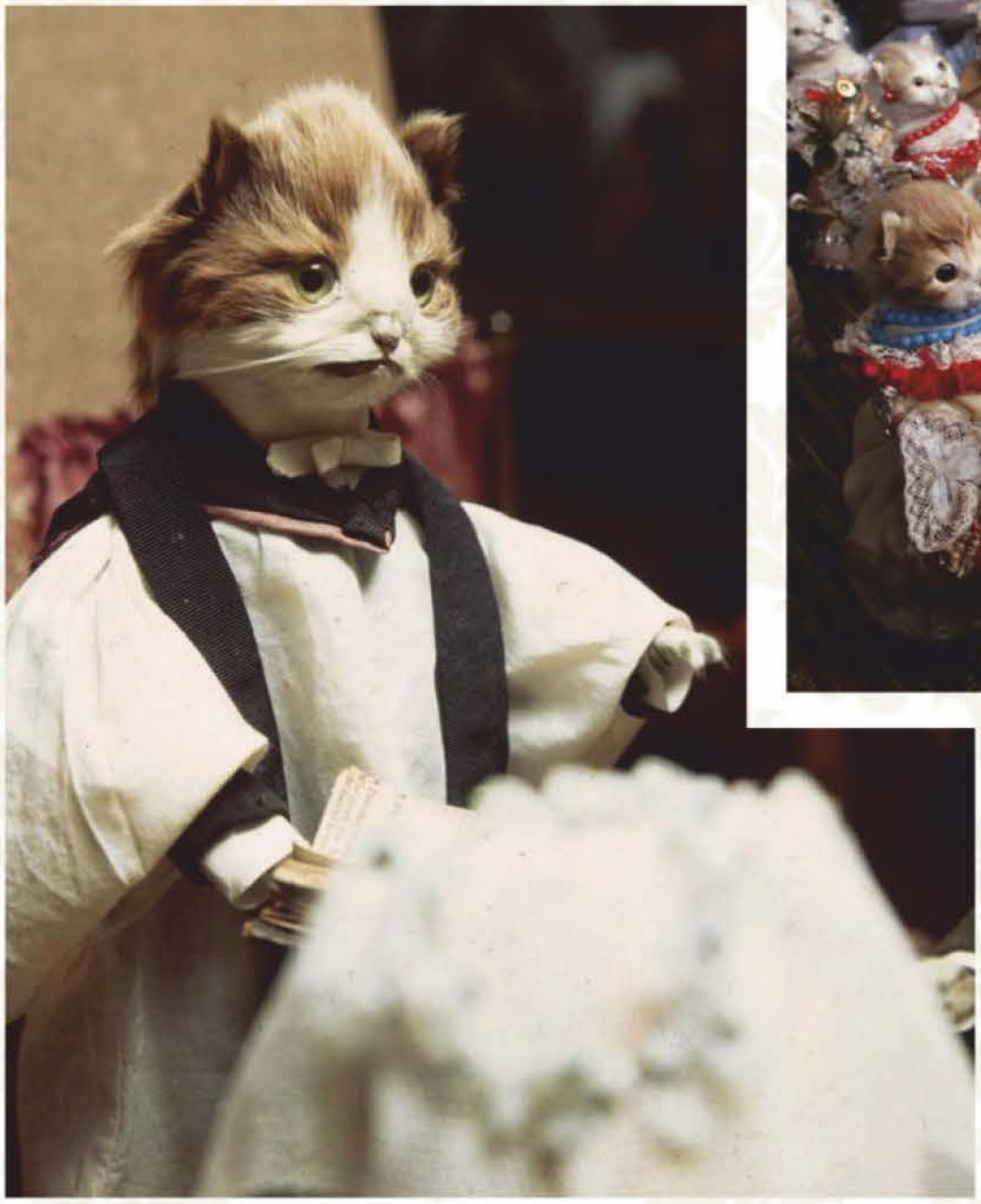
MUSEUM OF CURIOSITIES, 1950s

◀ As his creations multiplied, Potter moved his collection from a loft over a stable into this building in Bramber.

ALAMY X2, APEX NEWS & PICTURES X1, GETTY IMAGES X1, LINDA NYLIND/GUARDIAN/EYEVINE X1



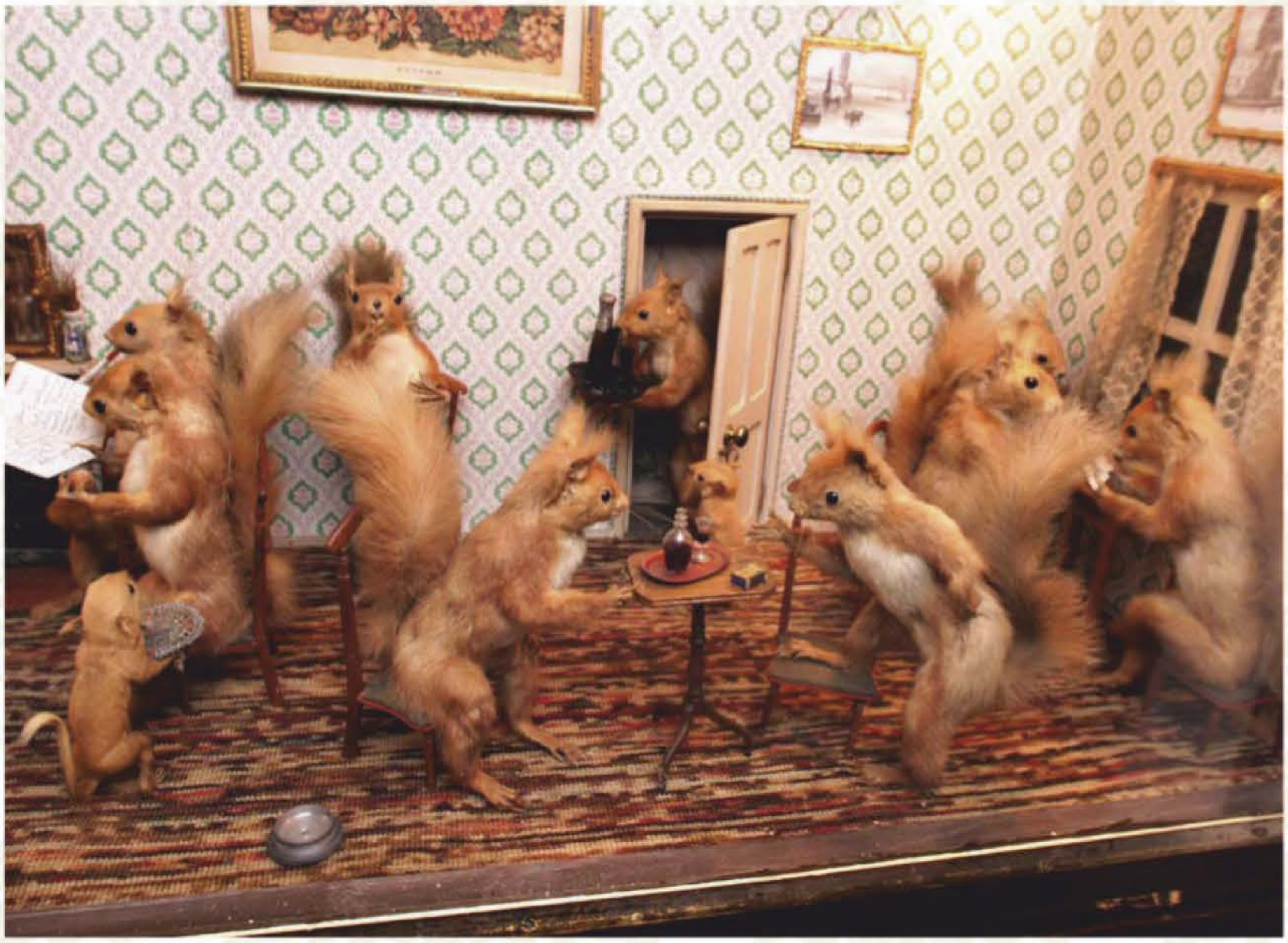
'THE KITTENS' WEDDING', c1890
▲ Twenty kittens, sourced from local farms, don homemade morning suits and brocade dresses (including frilly knickers) in this, Potter's last tableau, and the only one to feature clothes.



'THE KITTENS' WEDDING', c1890
◀ Replete in white surplice and clutching an order of service, a feline vicar solemnly oversees the wedding ceremony.

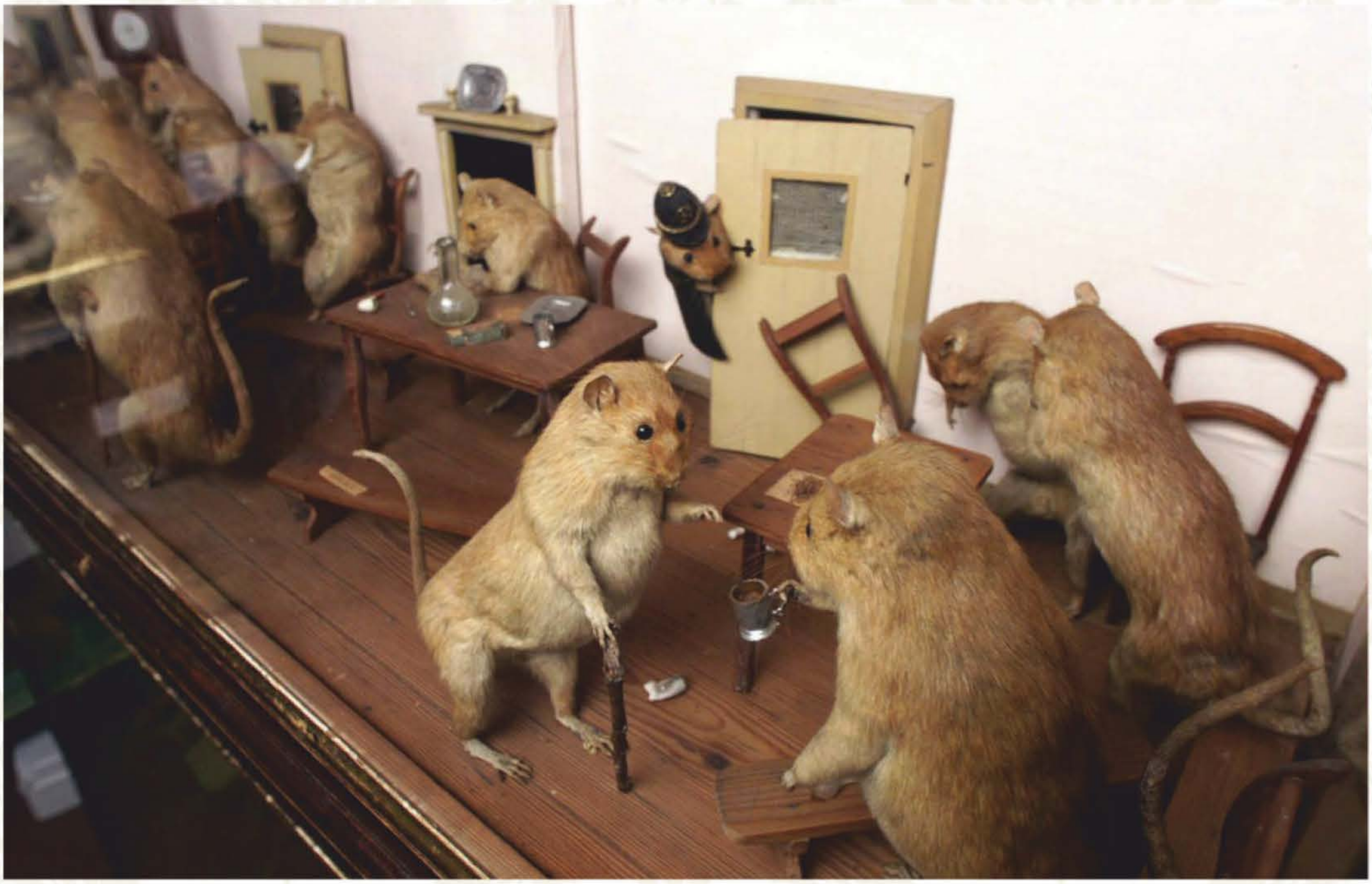
'THE UPPER TEN', c1880

▶ Its name inspired by a popular song from 1863, ***The Upper and Lower Ten Thousand***, this scene features red squirrels (grey squirrels were only introduced to Britain as an ornamental species in the 1870s) at a posh 'gentleman's' club. The squirrels are shown supping port and champagne, smoking pipes and cigars, and indulging in the popular Victorian card game cribbage.

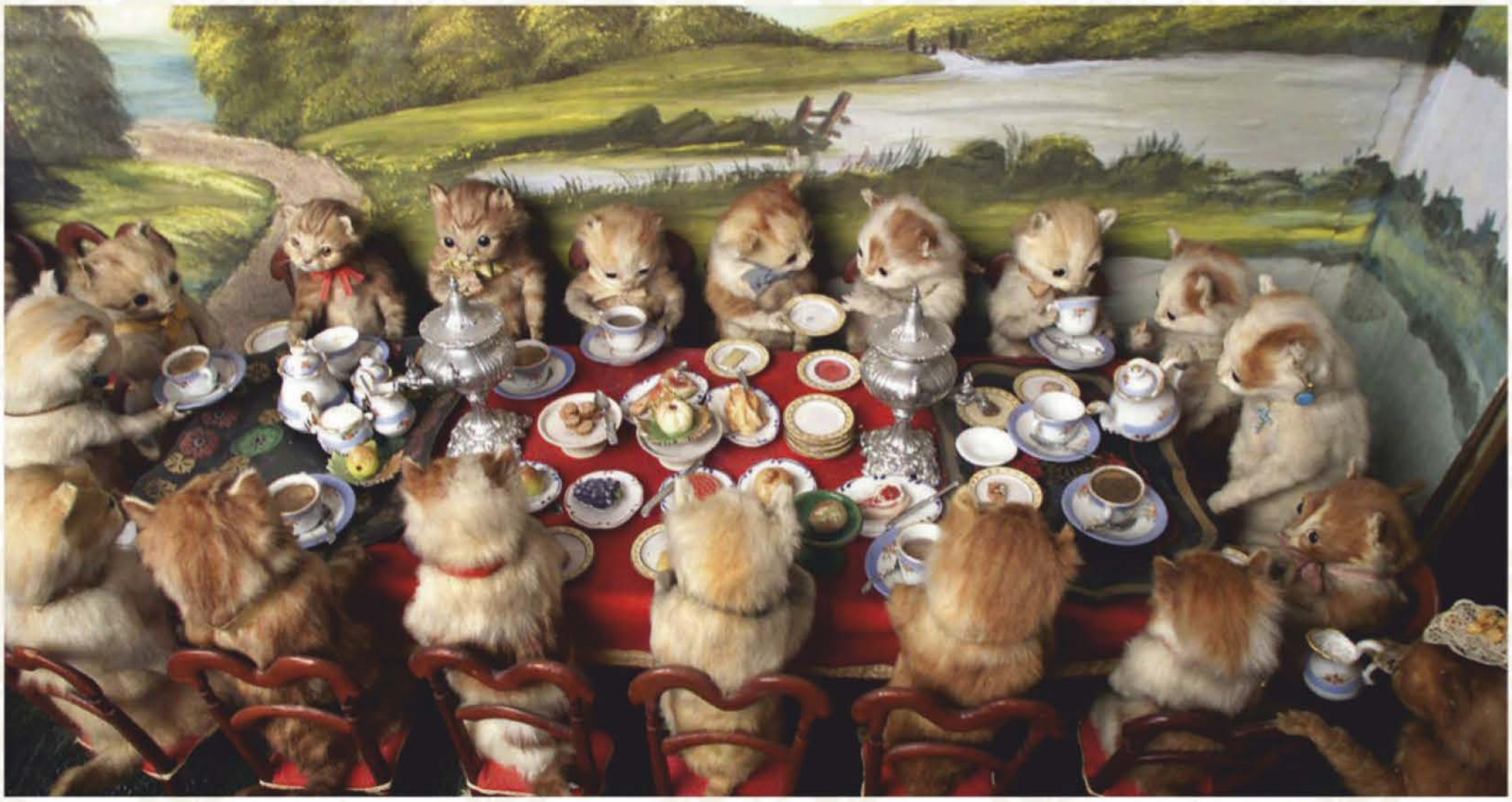


'THE LOWER FIVE', LATE 19TH CENTURY

▼ In contrast to their upper-class counterparts, the rats' den is being raided by police. Inside, the rodents are betting on dominoes and enjoying tankards of ale.



ALAMY X5

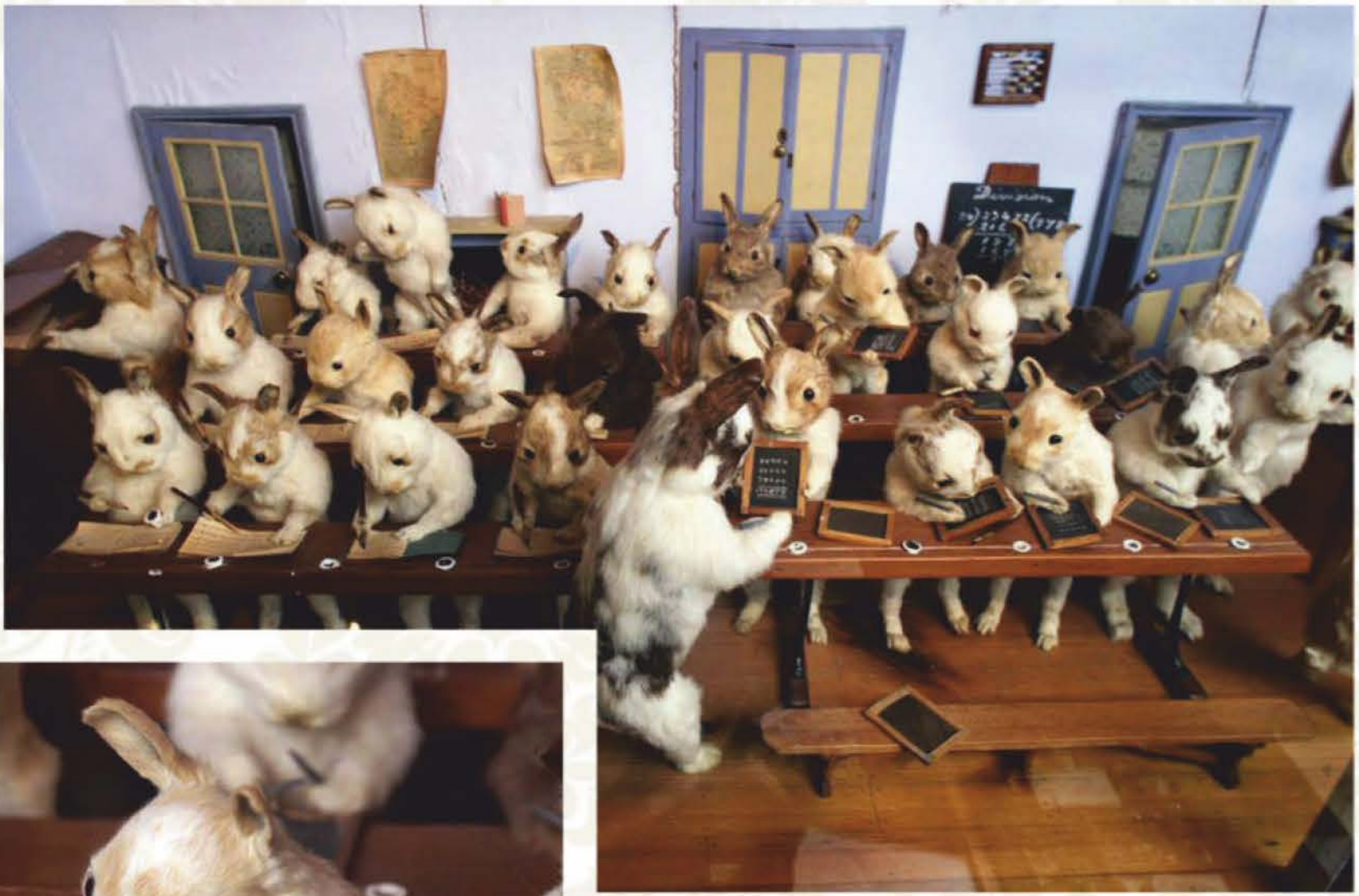


'THE KITTENS' TEA & CROQUET PARTY', LATE 19TH CENTURY

▲ Here, 18 kittens have gathered to drink tea out of tiny porcelain cups. Thanks to Potter's customary attention to detail, tea and tea-leaves can be seen in the cups, while cakes, scones, ham and fruit are among the delicacies on the table. The tea party forms part of a larger piece in which a game of croquet is also underway.

'RABBITS' VILLAGE SCHOOL', c1888

▼ These rabbits, just a month old, work together to solve their mathematical problems. Or is it a case of cheating?



'RABBITS' VILLAGE SCHOOL', c1888

▲ Some 48 baby rabbits were used to create this village school (the full piece depicts four classes). The setup is typical of a village school of the time – here, the rabbits are doing arithmetic using wooden-framed slates and pieces of chalk.

GET HOOKED

READ

Walter Potter's Curious World of Taxidermy, by Dr Pat Morris with Joanna Ebenstein (Constable, 2013)

LISTEN

Ian Sansom reflects on the history of taxidermy in BBC Radio 3's *Twenty Ways to Stuff a Cat* *www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b01nwntw*

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YOU ASK, WE ANSWER

SPEED MERCHANT
Jesse Owens competes in Berlin (*main picture*) and shows off his medals in the 1950s (*above*)

DID YOU KNOW?

IF THE SHOE FITS
Jesse Owens won his gold medals at the 1936 Olympics while wearing handmade leather track shoes with extra-long spikes. They had been made for him by a German shoemaker – named Adolf 'Adi' Dassler, the founder of Adidas.

DID HITLER SNUB JESSE OWENS?

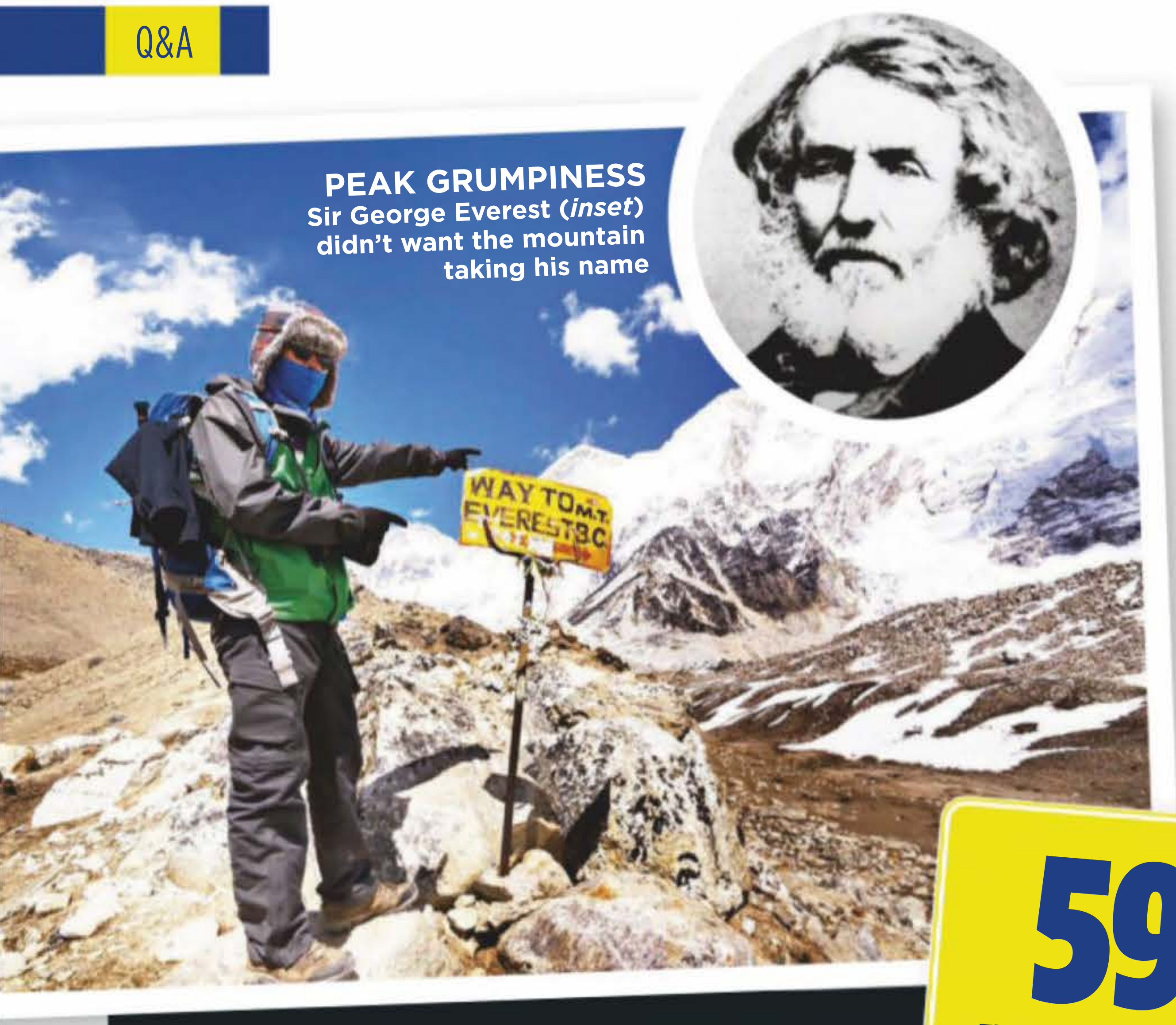
By winning four gold medals at the 1936 Olympics in Berlin, African-American athlete Jesse Owens made Adolf Hitler's idea of Aryan supremacy seem hollow. By the standards of his own ideology, it would have made sense for the Führer to snub Owens, but that didn't actually happen.

Owens raced to his first gold, in the 100m sprint final, on the second day of competition at the games, By this time, after being criticised for only congratulating German competitors, Hitler had decided not to congratulate any of the successful athletes personally.

"It was not Hitler who snubbed me," Owens repeatedly pointed out. "It was our president who snubbed me." Franklin Delano Roosevelt neither sent Owens a congratulatory telegram nor invited him alongside his white compatriots to the White House.

In fact, such was the state of race relations in the US that, when Owens attended a reception to mark his achievements at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel in New York, he was not permitted to enter by the main entrance. Instead, Owen had to use the freight elevator.

GETTY IMAGES X2


WAY TO M.T. EVEREST B.C

PEAK GRUMPINESS
Sir George Everest (*inset*) didn't want the mountain taking his name

How did **Everest** get its name?

For a time, the English knew the world's highest mountain as Peak XV, as those sent to survey the area couldn't decide which of its many local names to favour. The name Everest was the suggestion of Andrew Waugh, the surveyor general of India, who wanted to show respect for his predecessor, Sir George Everest – despite Everest having never seen the mountain, let alone stepped foot on it.

Not that Everest was especially honoured by the accolade. He complained the name could neither be written in Hindi nor pronounced by "the native of India". That didn't put the Royal Geographical Society off, however, and they officially named the mountain in 1865.

59

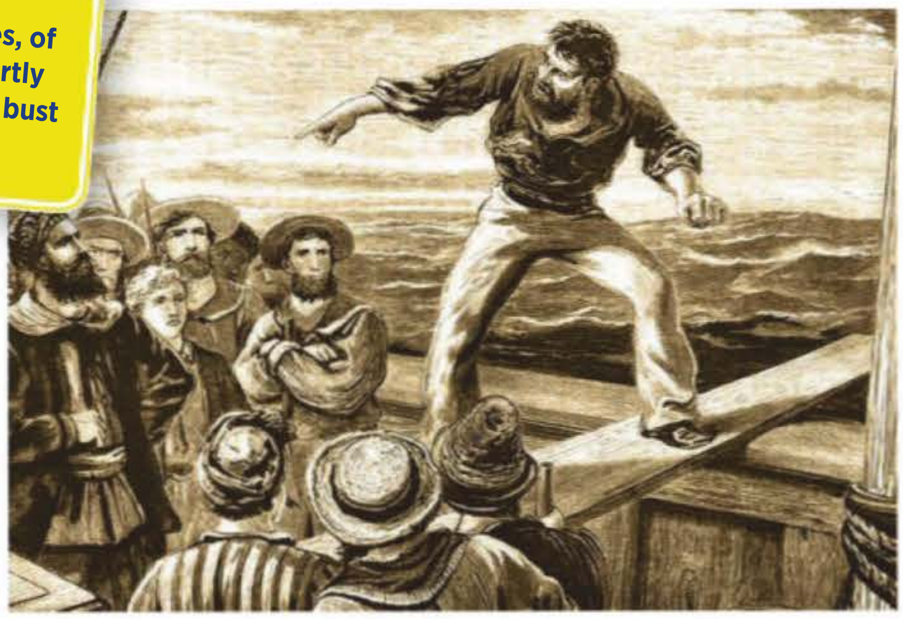
The height, in inches, of Queen Victoria shortly before she died. Her bust was 66 inches.

What were **pirate punishments**?

A pirate's life wasn't all roister-doistering. Crews had to follow strict rules, including fixed bedtimes and a ban on gambling – and discipline could be severe.

Despite its associations with pirates, being made to walk the plank was uncommon. Unruly pirates were more likely to be clapped in irons, flogged, tied to the mast or dunked in the sea from the yard arm. Another option was 'sweating' – where miscreants were tied to a short rope while crewmates poked and prodded at them with cutlasses. To avoid the attacks, they would run and dance around, all while a fiddle was played – enough to get them sweaty.

To get someone off a ship completely, a crewman could be sold into slavery, or marooned on an island with nothing but a pistol or blade with which to take their own life. But perhaps the nastiest punishment was keelhauling, where a sailor was tied to a rope that ran under the ship and dragged along the hull – at risk of drowning while also being cut to shreds by barnacles.



"LADS, CAN WE DISCUSS THIS?"
In fact, walking the plank was an uncommon punishment

Escalators at Harrods

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Harrods

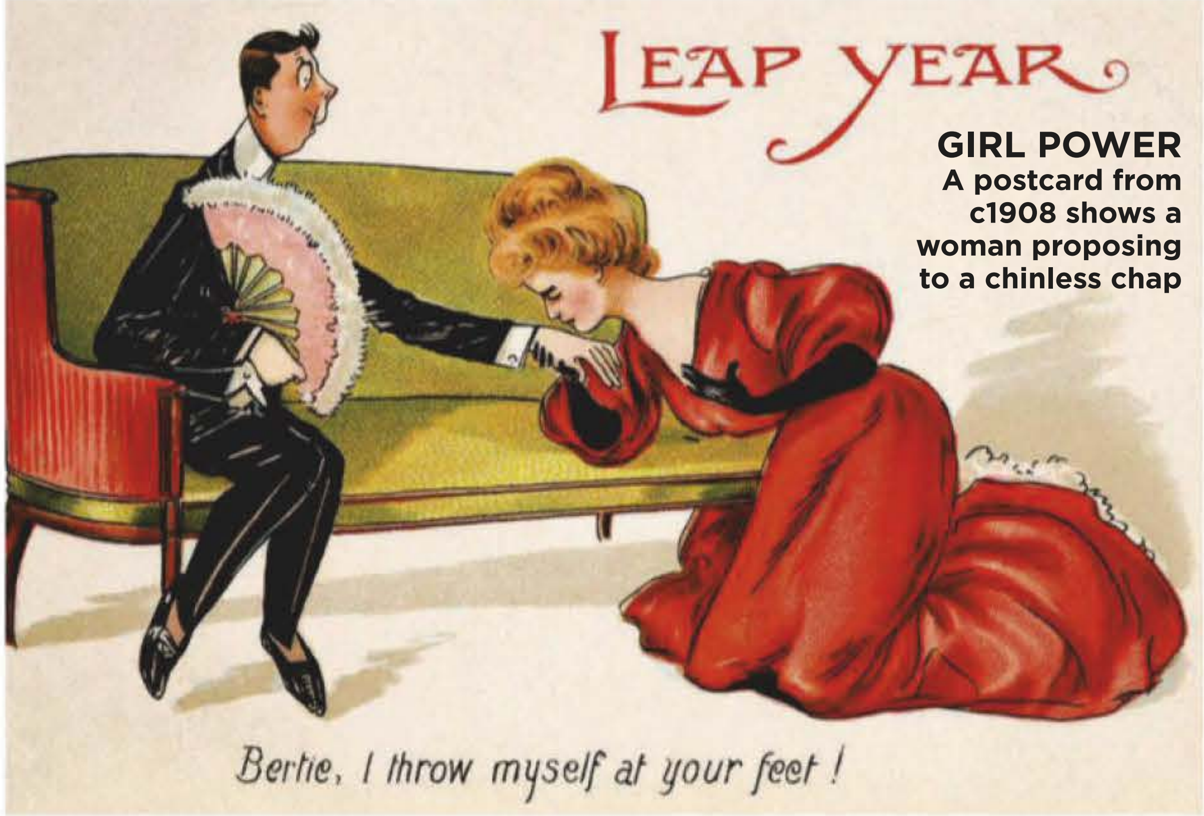
GOING UP IN THE WORLD
One of the escalators at Harrods in London, 1955

WHO INVENTED THE ESCALATOR?

Nathan Ames never got beyond a patent for his 'revolving stairs' in 1859, which seems appropriate considering the American was a patent attorney rather than an inventor. So, the rise of the elevator truly began thanks to the Otis Elevator Company.

The company bought both Reno's patent and another belonging to fellow American inventor, Charles Seeberger. This second design, which actually came with a prototype, had been snapped up and improved by Seeberger from yet another innovator in incline transportation, Charles Wheeler.

Safety was initially an issue. When the first escalator in England was installed, at Harrods in 1898, users were offered smelling salts and cognac at the top to recover from the ascent.


LEAP YEAR
Bertie, I throw myself at your feet !

GIRL POWER A postcard from c1908 shows a woman proposing to a chinless chap

WHY DO WOMEN PROPOSE IN A LEAP YEAR?

According to tradition – and what would weddings be without tradition – a leap year offers women the once-every-four-years opportunity to get on one knee and pop the question rather than wait for a man to get up his nerve. This leap year proposal switcheroo has been credited to two contenders.

Queen Margaret of Scotland was said to have passed a law in 1288 declaring that women could propose every 29 February – and that if a man refused, he had to pay a fine of a new gown, gloves or a kiss. There's just no record of such a law, though. Another contender for coming up with the idea is an Irish nun of the sixth century, Brigid of Kildare, who is said to have pleaded with Saint Patrick that women needed a chance to propose to shy suitors.

DID YOU KNOW?

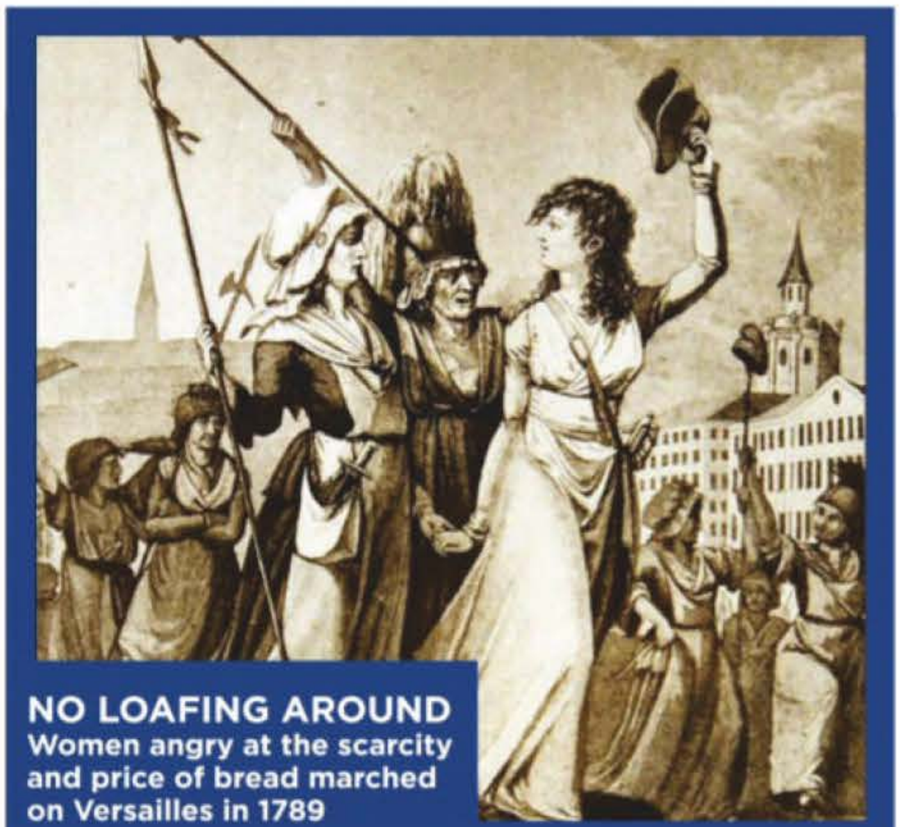
BOOMING BILLIARDS

In the 19th century, an unfounded belief in a shortage of ivory caused inventors to develop alternative types of billiard ball. An American, John Wesley Hyatt, used celluloid, even though it was flammable and could explode if hit hard enough.

WHO WAS JOHN O'GROATS?

At (nearly) the northernmost point of mainland Scotland and 814 miles by road from Land's End in Cornwall, the village of John O'Groats was named after a real person. Jan de Groot operated a ferry from the area to the nearby island of Orkney in the 15th century. Despite local legends, the name had nothing to do with him charging a groat for the journey, but was simply an Anglicised version of the Dutchman's name.

De Groot was quite a character. He supposedly built an eight-sided house with eight doors and an octagonal table so he could eat with his seven sons without an argument over who had pride of place during meals.



NO LOAFING AROUND Women angry at the scarcity and price of bread marched on Versailles in 1789

WHAT HAPPENED TO VERSAILLES IN THE FRENCH REVOLUTION?

As the ultimate symbol of French royal excess, it would be understandable if Versailles had been among the first targets when the revolution came in 1789. Yet remarkably the palace made it through this period of head-chopping upheaval relatively intact.

Louis XVI and his family were forced out of Versailles, never to return, on 6 October – the day after thousands of Parisian women, angered by the scarcity and high price of bread, showed up at the gates. Versailles was closed and many of its treasures sold off at auction. The palace fell under the care of the republic and became a storehouse for precious items pilfered from the aristocracy – helping it survive the carnage.

ALAMY X2, GETTY IMAGES X7

JOHN O'GROATS
NEW YORK 3230m
LANDS END 874m
RGH 273m

NORTHERN EXPOSURE The windswept hotel and inn at John O'Groats

BOOM AND BUST
The aftermath of the Wall Street bombing shows a scene of utter devastation

Why was **Wall Street bombed** in 1920?

Nine years before the crash came the bomb. Just after midday on 16 September 1920, a cart rigged with dynamite exploded on Wall Street. With hundreds of iron weights affixed to the bomb to act as shrapnel, the blast killed 30 people outright and injured hundreds more. The bombing was the deadliest terror attack in the US to that date, but those responsible were never caught.

Suspicions immediately fell on anarchist and communist groups, and the most likely culprits were thought to be the Galleanists, Italian anarchists. A name still put forward today is Mario Buda, who was in New York on that day and left for Italy before being questioned. But the official investigation ultimately made no progress – not least because Wall Street made a point of opening for business the day after the attack and the crime scene was cleaned up too quickly.

3

The number of sheets of toilet paper allocated to British servicemen per day in World War II, compared to the 22 given to American GIs.

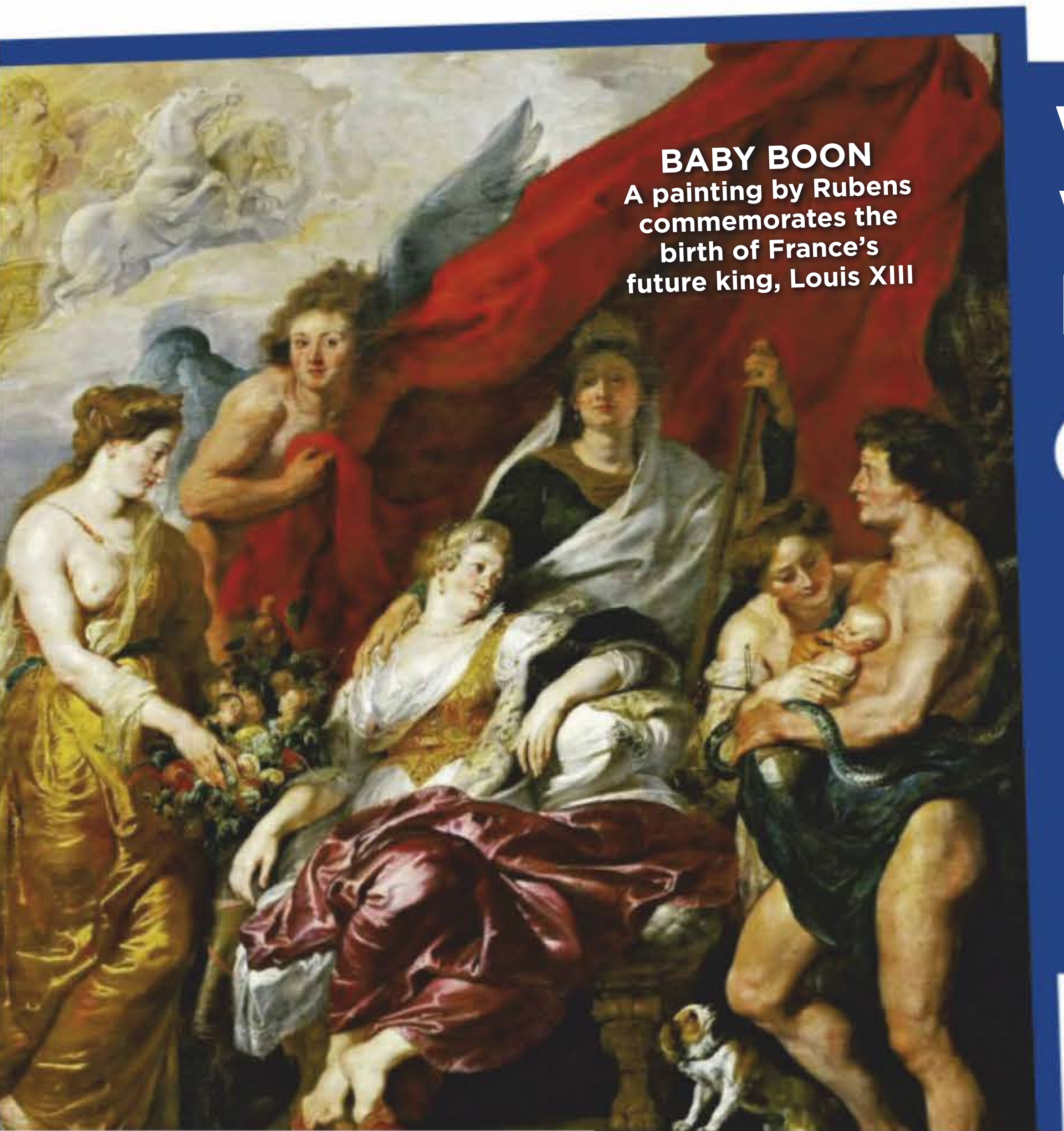
MAN O'WAR
General Robert E Lee remains a contentious figure in contemporary America

WHAT HAPPENED TO GENERAL LEE?

Following his surrender on 9 April 1865, which ended the American Civil War, General Robert E Lee, commander of the Confederate State Army, didn't face arrest. He did, however, lose his right to vote and some of his property, including land now occupied by the Arlington National Cemetery.

While Lee hoped to live out his days in obscurity on a farm, he was persuaded to become president of Washington College in Lexington, Virginia, where he strongly advocated reconciliation between North and South. He accepted the 13th Amendment, which abolished slavery, but continued to oppose racial equality or giving black people the vote until his death in 1870.

His reputation has remained highly divisive, as seen by the recent controversies over statues depicting Confederate leaders.



BABY BOON
A painting by Rubens commemorates the birth of France's future king, Louis XIII

WHY DID ROYAL WOMEN GIVE BIRTH IN FRONT OF PEOPLE?

A royal birth in 17th or 18th-century Europe had enough complications. Not only was it a potentially life-threatening ordeal for mother and baby, but queens had to shoulder the pressure of providing a healthy male heir. Imagine adding gawking witnesses to this maelstrom of stress. That was the fate of many royal mothers-to-be, especially in England and France.

Once a queen went into labour, her rooms filled up with courtiers, not there to help – if anything, they made things trickier – but to ensure there was no funny business, such as swapping out a girl for an un-royal baby boy.

Dozens witnessed Queen Mary of Modena give birth in 1688, while some 200 swarmed into the chambers of Marie Antoinette in hope of watching the arrival of a new French Dauphin in 1778 (but she gave birth to a girl). The scene was so chaotic that people climbed the furniture for a vantage point.

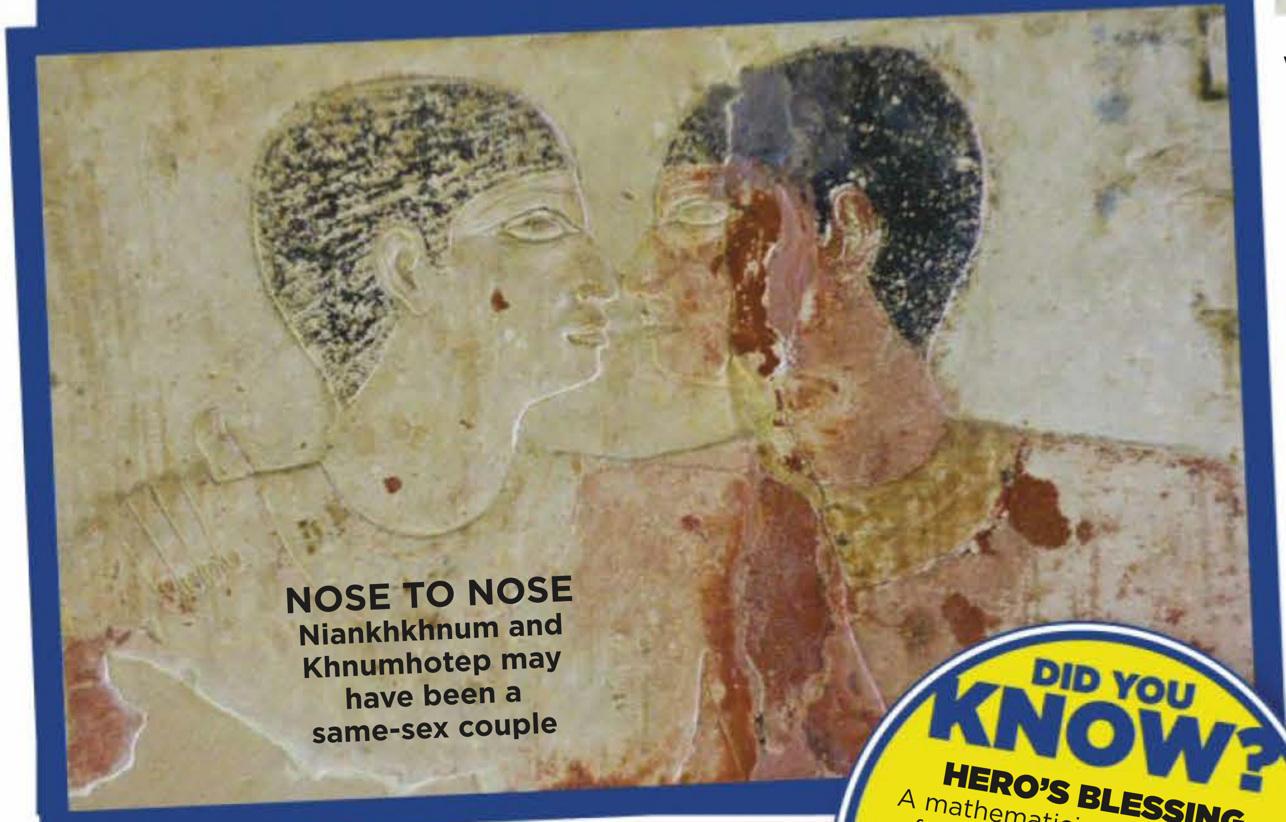
Was homosexuality accepted in **Ancient Egypt**?

This is a richly debated question among Egyptologists, who have to be mindful of assigning modern understandings of LGBTQ+ issues to ancient civilisations. That said, while homosexual acts were not accepted in Egyptian society – so much so it was worth a mention in the Book of the Dead – there are a few hints of them taking place without the pyramids crumbling.

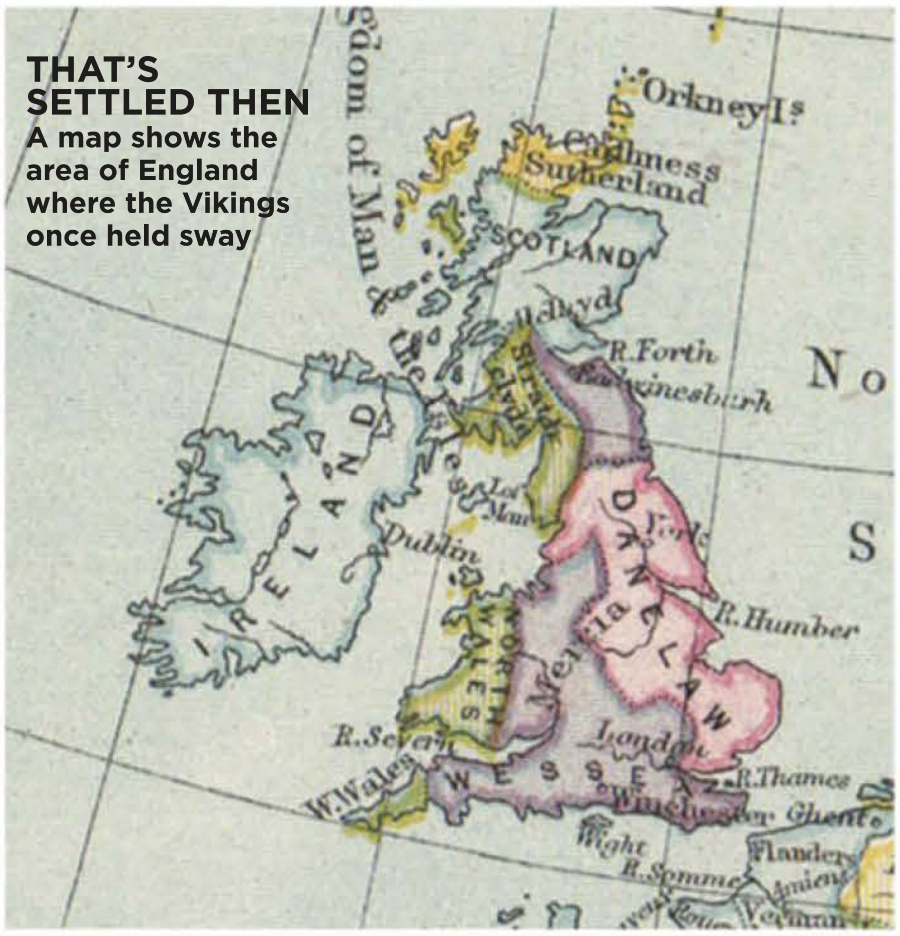
Some are merely stories, or even myths, from the account of King Pepi II who possibly had a clandestine relationship with his general, Sasenet, to the graphic tale of the gods Horus and Seth having sexual encounters during their long-standing rivalry.

In 1964, archaeologists discovered an unusual tomb in Saqqara, dating from the mid-third millennium BC. Niankhkhnum and Khnumhotep were both manicurists to the pharaoh and were both married with children. Yet scenes on the walls of the tomb show the men in intimate embraces.

The pair may have been brothers or even conjoined twins. But their tomb may be evidence of an ancient same-sex couple – and a certain degree of acceptance of their relationship.



NOSE TO NOSE
Niankhkhnum and Khnumhotep may have been a same-sex couple



THAT'S SETTLED THEN
A map shows the area of England where the Vikings once held sway

WHAT WAS THE **DANELAW**?

The Vikings didn't just carry out smash-and-grab raids along Britain's east coast, but started settling and establishing their own areas of influence. So even after Alfred the Great crushed the Vikings' aim of conquering all the Anglo-Saxon kingdoms by defeating the Great Heathen Army at the Battle of Edington, in AD 878, they weren't going anywhere.

A huge area of England, roughly east of a line between London and Chester, became known as the Danelaw. There, the Danes held autonomous power and left their mark on the country, its people, language, laws and customs. It wasn't an officially recognised geographical area – more of a sphere of influence – but provisions were made for peaceful coexistence and trade between those in the Danelaw and the other kingdoms.

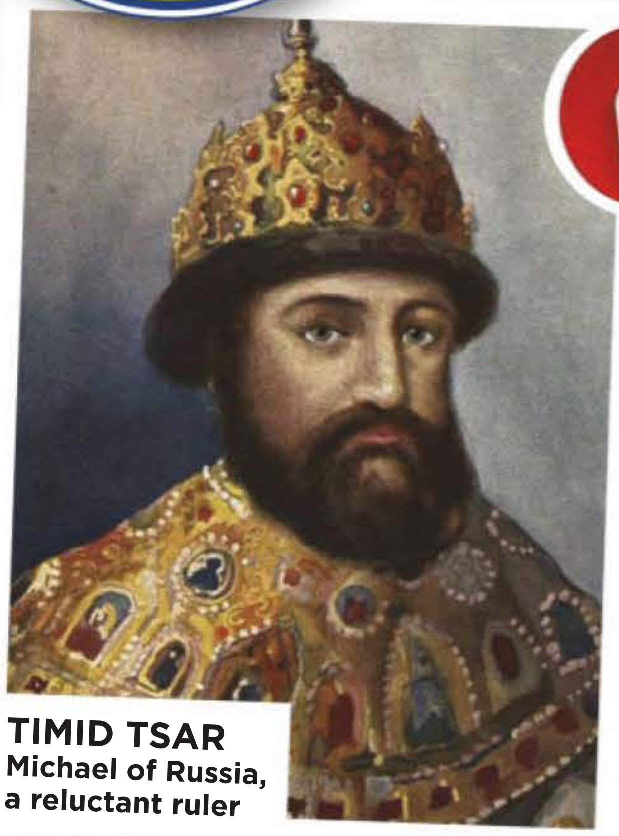
This lasted until AD 954 when Eric Bloodaxe, the last Viking king in England, was driven from his capital of Jorvik (York).

How did the **Romanov dynasty** begin?

Most of us know about the end of the Romanovs, with the Russian Revolution in 1917 and the execution of Tsar Nicholas II and his family in 1918. Less familiar is the story of how the 300-year dynasty got going.

In 1598, the death of Tsar Fyodor I without an heir ended the Rurik line, which had its roots in the ninth century, and began the Time of Troubles – 15 years of ineffectual rulers, uprisings, famines and foreign invasions.

The situation grew so desperate that a *zemsky sobor*, an assembly made up of important figures in Russian society, was called in 1613 to elect a new tsar. The delegates chose Michael Romanov, whose grandfather was Fyodor's uncle. Aged 16 and somewhat timid, Michael was hugely reluctant to take the throne, bursting into tears when told the news. The aristocrats may have thought they could control the young tsar, but instead he launched an all-powerful dynasty that ruled Russia for centuries.



TIMID TSAR
Michael of Russia, a reluctant ruler

DID YOU KNOW?

HERO'S BLESSING
A mathematician and engineer from Roman Egypt, Hero of Alexandria, invented the first known vending machine. The weight of a coin being dropped into the contraption, set up in a temple, caused holy water to be dispensed.

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ON OUR RADAR

A guide to what's happening in the world of history over the coming weeks

The exhibition celebrates miniature locomotives and their influence on their larger counterparts

ABOVE: **Stephenson's *Rocket* was the most advanced locomotive of its day**

RIGHT: **The *Sans Pareil* was an early competitor to the *Rocket***

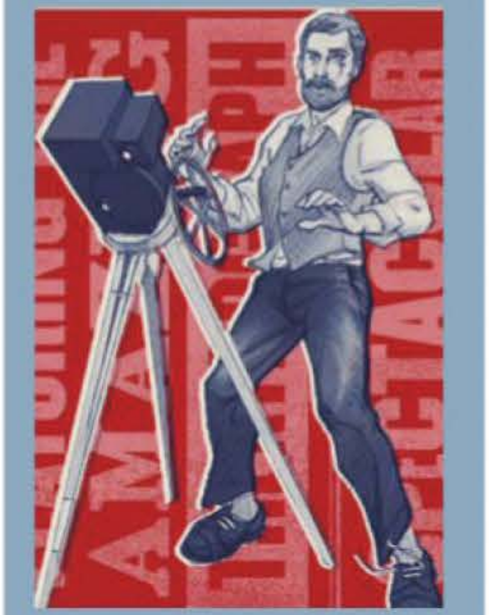
EXHIBITION

Brass, Steel & Fire

National Railway Museum, York, until 13 April,
www.railwaymuseum.org.uk/whats-on/brass-steel-and-fire

Miniature locomotives, built by enthusiasts in the comfort of their own homes, would fuel the Industrial Revolution. Ordinary people built model trains in their own homes, paving the way for the real thing. This exhibition will explore how small-scale and homemade experiments pushed the boundaries of engineering, and how the obsession with model railways began. The most influential locomotive, Stephenson's *Rocket*, will be returning to the museum after 30 years, allowing visitors to get up close with the locomotive that changed the world. Some of the most beautifully made and oldest examples of steam engines and railways will also be on display. Follow the 100-year story of a time of exceptional technological change.

WHAT'S ON
Robert Paul and British cinema p85



TV & RADIO
Our pick of this month's history programmes...p86

BRITAIN'S TREASURES
Canterbury Cathedral .. p88

BOOK REVIEWS
Our look at the best new releases....p90

UNCROWNED QUEEN
The Fateful Life of Margaret Beaufort Tudor Matriarch
NICOLA TALLIS

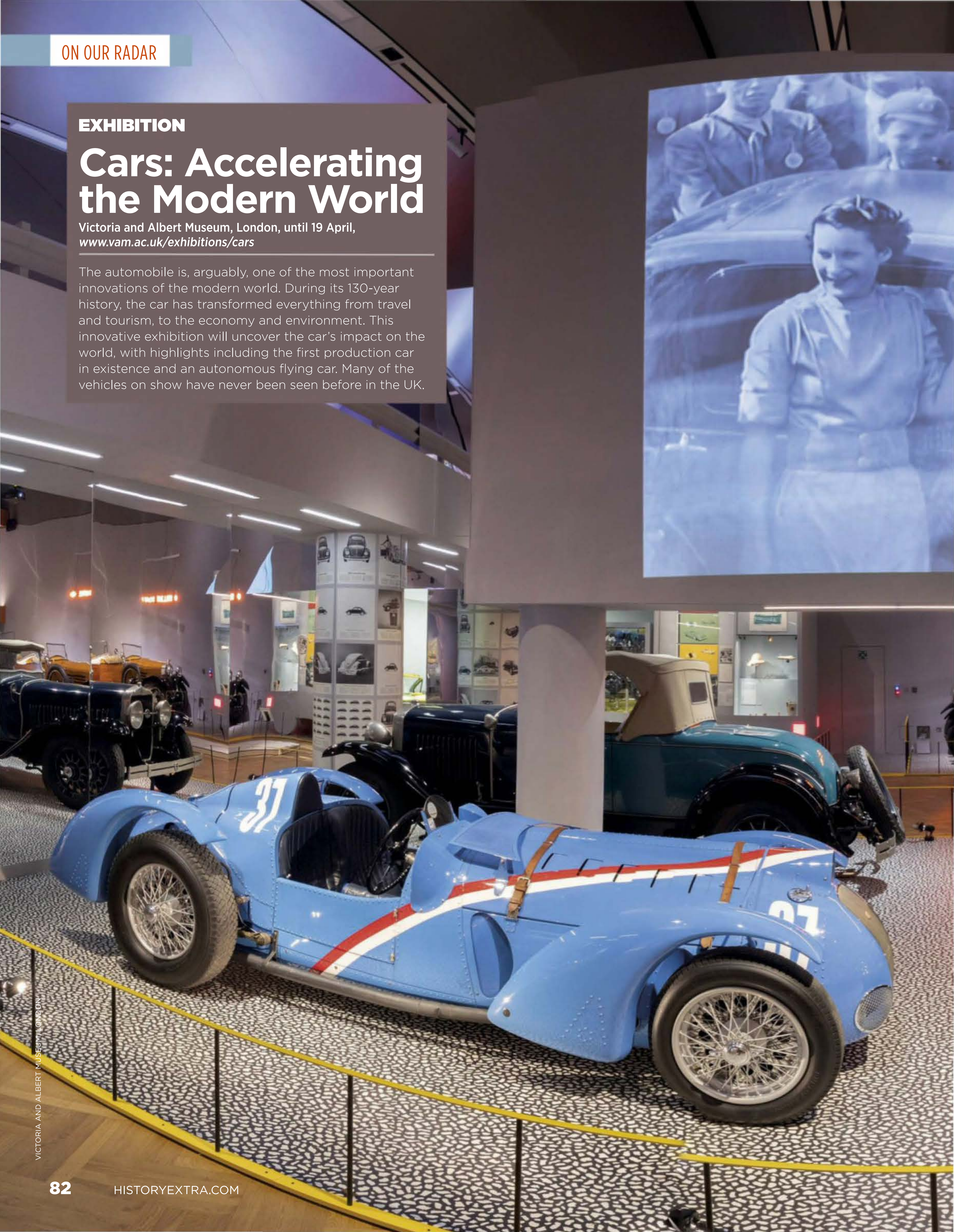
CHARLOTTE GRAHAM X1, NATIONAL RAILWAY MUSEUM X1, THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE SCIENCE MUSEUM X3, OLLY CROMACK X1, ALAMY X1, BBC/LION TV/HELENA HUNT X1

EXHIBITION

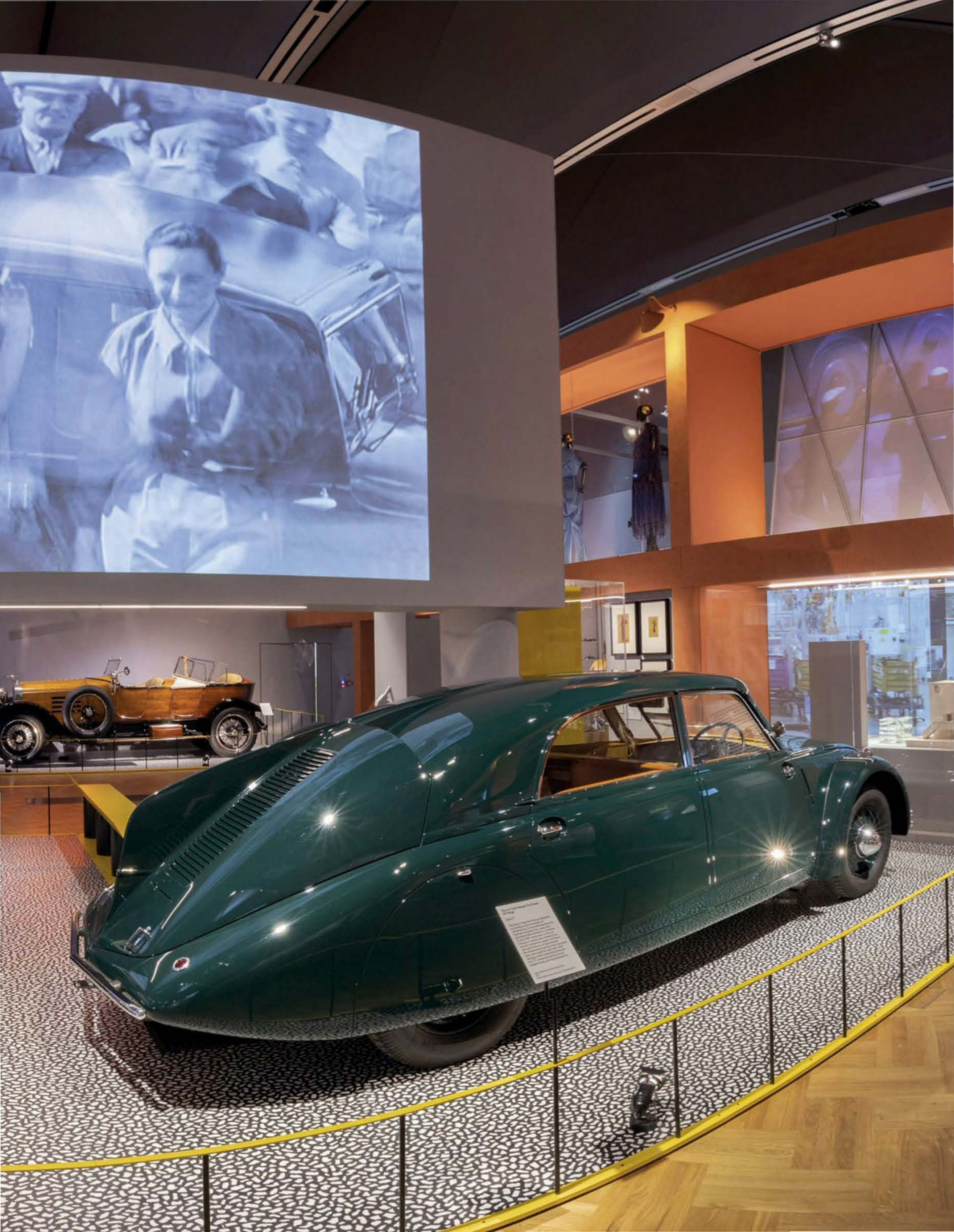
Cars: Accelerating the Modern World

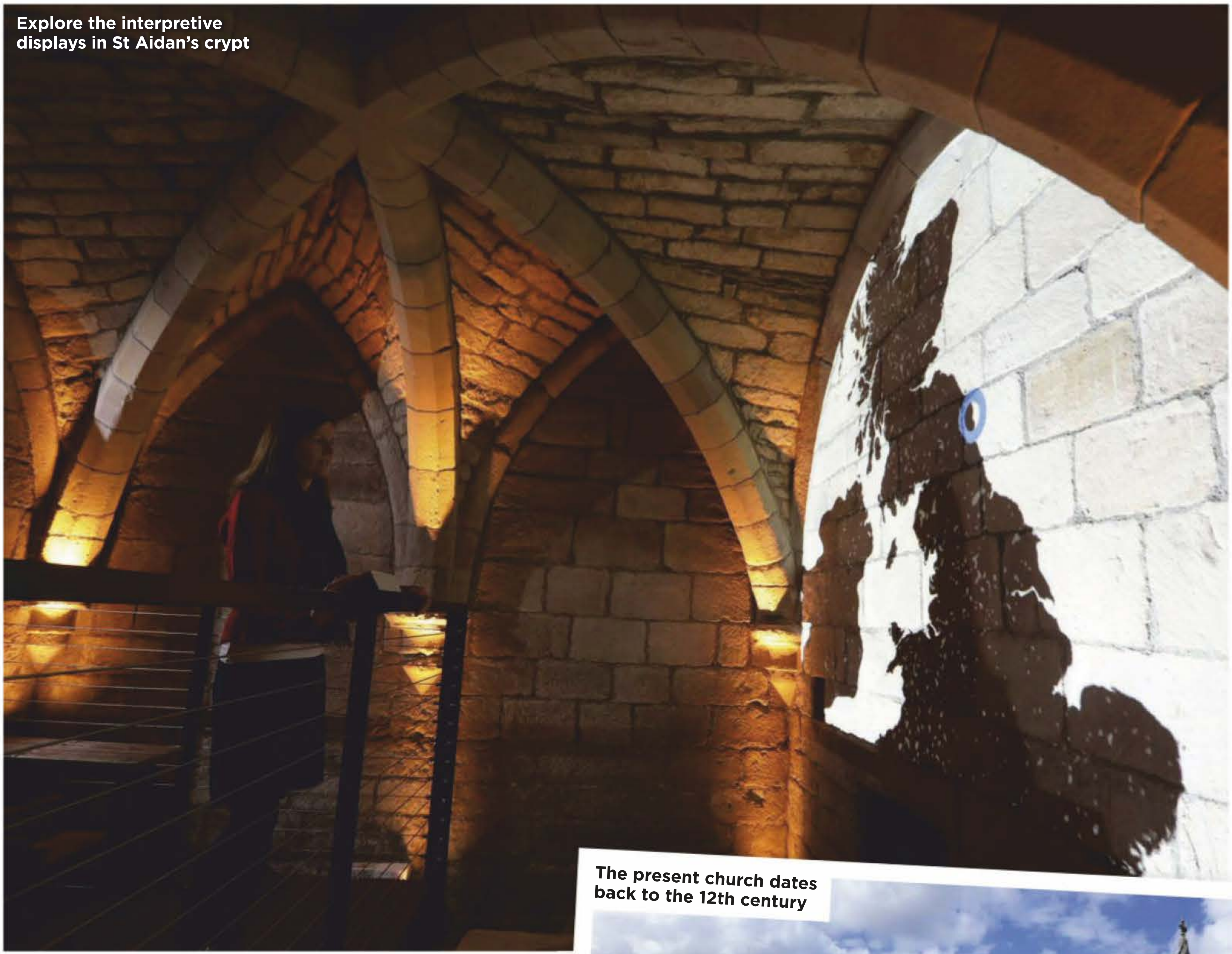
Victoria and Albert Museum, London, until 19 April,
www.vam.ac.uk/exhibitions/cars

The automobile is, arguably, one of the most important innovations of the modern world. During its 130-year history, the car has transformed everything from travel and tourism, to the economy and environment. This innovative exhibition will uncover the car's impact on the world, with highlights including the first production car in existence and an autonomous flying car. Many of the vehicles on show have never been seen before in the UK.



VICTORIA AND ALBERT MUSEUM, LONDON





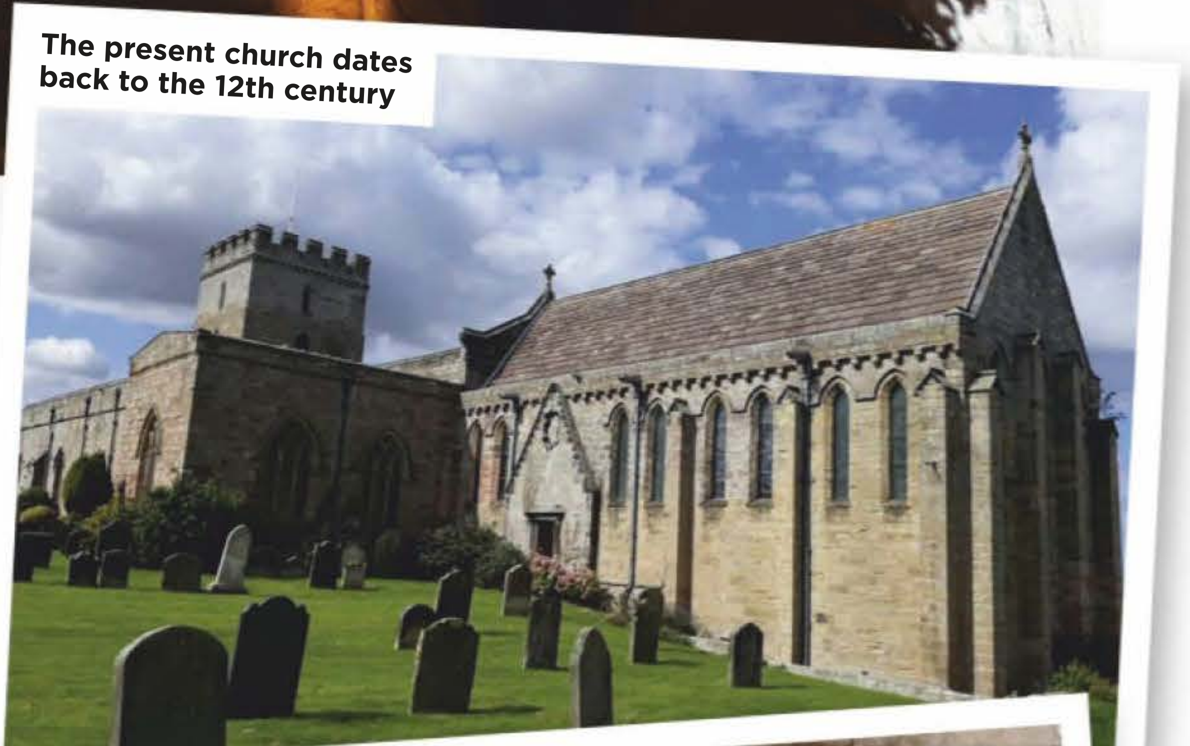
Explore the interpretive displays in St Aidan's crypt

OPENING

St Aidan's Crypt

St Aidan's Church and Crypt, Bamburgh,
https://bamburghbones.org/visit

For the first time, the 12th-century crypt at Bamburgh's St Aidan's church is being opened to the public, shedding light on Anglo-Saxon Northumbria. Excavations carried out in 1997 in sand dunes near Bamburgh Castle unearthed what is believed to have been the burial ground of the 7th- and 8th- century Northumbrian kings; the crypt is the final resting place of the 110 skeletons found there. Analysis has revealed that the majority of those found came from much farther afield than Bamburgh, and may have worshipped with St Aidan – the Irish monk who brought Christianity to Northumbria. The remains were laid to rest in the crypt in 2016, accessed only by special appointment; a new set of stairs and interpretive display has now opened the space to all. The digital ossuary can be accessed for free online at *www.bamburghbones.org*.



The present church dates back to the 12th century

110 skeletons are now at rest in the crypt

CREST X1, G YOUNG X1, J TURNER X1, TRUSTEES OF THE SCIENCE MUSEUM GROUP X2, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS X1, NATIONAL TRUST X1

Contrary to popular myth, Victorians did smile in photos

EXHIBITION

We Are Not Amused! Laughter in the Nineteenth Century

The Atkinson, Southport, until 21 March, *https://bit.ly/36ZAWA6*

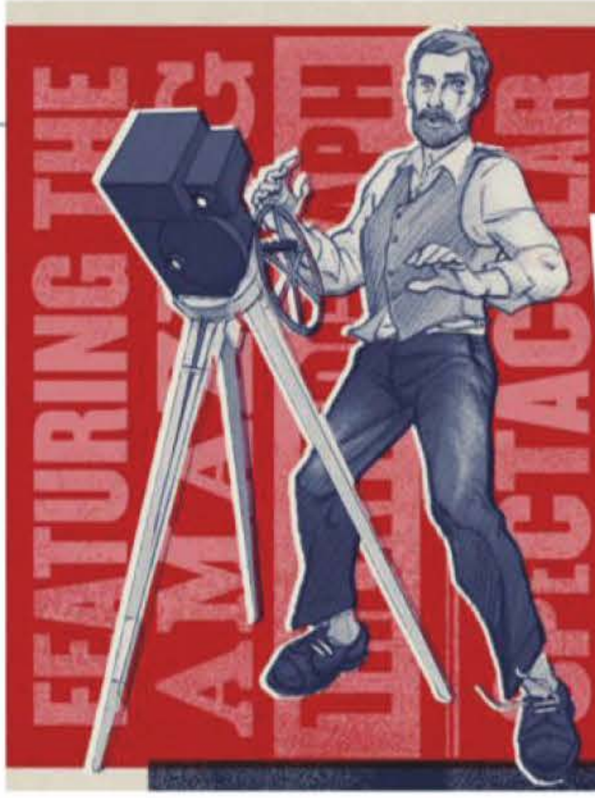
The Victorians have always been seen as dour, proper and no-nonsense people, with Queen Victoria seemingly the epitome of this. This is not entirely accurate though, as they could laugh with the best of us. This exhibition will uncover the comics, joke books, shows and saucy songs that tickled even the Queen herself, and will dispel the myth of the Victorian age as one devoid of merriment and laughter.

TALK

Hidden Love? LGBTQ+ Lives in the Archives

National Archives, 20 February, https://bit.ly/2s29SS5

Delve deep into the archives to discover queer history through photos, court reports and other documents. Follow how the state controlled the lives of gay and bisexual men and women, and how acts of defiance were criminalised. Victoria Iglikowski-Broad, Principal Records Specialist on Diverse Histories at The National Archives, will be on hand to explain this fascinating and yet often forgotten aspect of history and demonstrate the wealth of material held in the archives.



Robert Paul (*illustrated left*) was a film pioneer whose works were often turned into 'filoscope' flip books

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EXHIBITION

The Forgotten Showman: How Robert Paul Invented British Cinema

Science and Media Museum, Bradford, until 29 March, *www.scienceandmediamuseum.org.uk/whats-on/forgotten-showman*

Robert Paul played a pivotal role in the British film industry, but this early pioneer has almost been written out of the history books. He was the first to build commercially successful film equipment in Britain, in the 1890s, but his contributions have been overshadowed by those who came after. To mark 150 years since his birth, Paul's story will be brought into the spotlight, ensuring that he takes his rightful place in film history.

EXHIBITION

Riches and Rebellion

Tredegar House, Newport, 15 February to 3 April, *bit.ly/2Mnr6QA*

Marking 180 years since the Newport Rising, this exhibition will explore power, responsibility and the story of the Chartists' struggle in Wales. In November 1839, 10,000 Chartists marched on Newport, calling for political reform and the release of Chartist prisoners. A bloody battle ensued when they met an armed regiment – hundreds of marchers were injured and 22 killed. The exhibition will explore the Morgan family – the ancestral family of Tredegar House – and what role they played in the bloody uprising.

PEOPLE'S CHARTER!

At the time the Morgans of Tredegar were one of the most powerful families in South Wales

ALSO LOOK OUT FOR

- **Let's Misbehave: The 1920s at Blenheim – Explore the decadent decade through the world of the upper classes, with music, dancing and costumes. Blenheim Palace, 15 February to 13 April, *bit.ly/2sUOf6h***
- **Feast & Fast: The Art of Food in Europe, 1500-1800 – Follow the culture of food through time. The Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge, until 26 April, *bit.ly/2QamhLC***

TV AND RADIO

The hottest documentaries, podcasts and period dramas

Mary Beard explores how our dilemmas over nudity stretch back to Antiquity

ONE TO WATCH

NAKED TRUTHS

Mary Beard's Shock of the Nude

BBC Two, February

What are we to make of the tradition of the nude within Western art? It's a question that's come into sharp relief in the *#MeToo* era, yet, says Mary Beard, it's been endlessly debated.

"Each generation tends to think it's fighting its battles over the nude first," she says. "We're getting rid of fig leaves, or we're really worried about this image being exploitative. And yet actually, these controversies, they go back to the ancient world. The female nude is born controversial."

This story of Aphrodite of Knidos, a statue that, it's said, inspired one smitten young man to try to make love to it, bears out this idea. These kinds of collisions between eroticism, however misplaced, and art recur through the Western tradition.

"Of course, there are wonderful representations in all periods and in all kinds of places of people without clothes on, but they haven't been fetishised in quite the same way in other cultures," says Beard. Why that might be is one of the central questions explored in the classicist's two-part series on the nude, an exploration that takes in history, religion and morality, and how artists train.

BBC/LION TV/HELENA HUNT X1, BBC/BLAST FILMS/OLLY CROMACK X1, BBC/WALL TO WALL/ZDF X1, FILM PRODUKCJA X1

Kelly and his gang eluded police for two years

OZZY OUTLAW

True History of the Kelly Gang

In cinemas from Friday 28 February

After receiving rave reviews at film festival screenings, director Justin Kurzel's revisionist retelling of the Ned Kelly legend gets a wider release. Based on Australian writer Peter Carey's Booker Prize-winning novel, it's a drama that, without entirely doing away with the idea of gang leader Kelly (1854-80) as an anti-authoritarian antihero, explores his backstory to show him essentially as a damaged figure. George MacKay (*1917*) stars as the older Kelly, while Russell Crowe makes a memorable cameo as Harry Power (1819-91), the bushranger who made a teenage Kelly his accomplice in crime.

LESBIAN-LIT AND THE LAW

Riot Girls: The Trial of *The Well Of Loneliness*

BBC Radio 4, Saturday 25 January

We now see *The Well of Loneliness* by Radclyffe Hall (1880-1943) as a groundbreaking work in the history of lesbian literature. But when it was first published, by Jonathan Cape in 1928, the novel caused outrage in certain quarters for its sympathetic portrayal of 'sexual inversion', and came to be at the centre of a famous obscenity trial. Kate Fleetwood stars as Hall in a drama by Shelley Silas that recalls events in court. Part of BBC Radio 4's *Riot Girls* strand.

***The Windermere Children* is a drama about young survivors of the Holocaust making a new life in Windermere**

NEW LIVES

The Windermere Children

BBC Two, late January

As World War II drew to a close and the horrors of the Holocaust became widely known, the British Government granted up to 1,000 children the right to come to the UK. With the assistance of the RAF, some 300 young and deeply traumatised survivors of the Nazi concentration camps arrived at Calgarth Estate near Lake Windermere. It's a story of hope retold here in a 90-minute drama that stars Thomas Kretschmann (*The Pianist*), as Oscar Friedmann, a German-born social worker and psychoanalyst who led efforts to help the children to build new lives.

In other programming around Holocaust Memorial Day, *Belsen: Our Story* (BBC Two) features the testimony of some of those who experienced the horrors of a concentration camp where thousands died from starvation and disease.

PROTECTING THE PAST

Secrets of the Museum

BBC Two, February

The Victoria & Albert Museum is packed with more than two million items related to the history of art, design and performance. Caring for this internationally important collection is a huge undertaking that requires the work of teams of curators, conservators and technicians, work here charted in fly-on-the-wall fashion. In the first of six episodes, moth-damaged Pumpie the elephant, a handmade children's toy, gets some much-needed attention and posh frocks are to the fore in a Christian Dior exhibition.

James Norton stars as journalist Gareth Jones

REPORTS FROM THE EDGE

Mr Jones

In cinemas from Friday 14 February

In 1933, Welsh journalist Gareth Jones (1905-35) travelled to the Soviet Union. There, having escaped the attentions of the authorities, he saw at first hand the suffering caused by Stalin's genocidal famine in eastern Ukraine. Polish director Agnieszka Holland's epic account of Jones's fearless reporting – and the problems he faced having his reports believed – stars a never-better James Norton in the lead role, while a strong supporting cast includes Vanessa Kirby, Kenneth Cranham and Peter Sarsgaard.

ALSO LOOK OUT FOR

▶ *Abandoned Engineering*, with its spooky yet fascinating pictures of once-important buildings being taken back by nature, returns to Yesterday in January.

▶ *Emma* (in cinemas from Friday 14 February) stars Anya Taylor-Joy as Jane Austen's much-loved hero.

Canterbury Cathedral, seat of the head of the Church of England, towers over the city

CHANCE ENCOUNTERS

Geoffrey Chaucer's popular 14th-century *Canterbury Tales*, written in Middle English, tells the tale of a group of pilgrims from different walks of life who travel together from London to Becket's shrine at Canterbury.

BRITAIN'S TREASURES...

CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL Kent

Standing in the heart of Canterbury is an impressive Norman cathedral that forms the beating heart of the Church of England

GETTING THERE

The cathedral is easily accessed from the centre of the city and from the M2. It's a short walk from both Canterbury East and Canterbury West train stations.

OPENING TIMES AND PRICES

The cathedral is open daily for worship and visiting between 9am and 5pm (4.30pm on Sundays). Please check the website for church services that may cause closures. Adults £12.50, children £8.50 – entry is free if attending a service.

FIND OUT MORE

www.canterbury-cathedral.org

Nestled among the cobbled streets of Canterbury stands the most important building in the Anglican Communion. Canterbury Cathedral is a site of worship, pilgrimage and history, towering above the city, and aptly grandiose given its dual roles as the Mother church of the Church of England and the wider Anglian Communion. It's also the seat of the Archbishop of Canterbury – the Church of England's most senior bishop.

The original cathedral was founded by St Augustine in around AD 600. He was sent by Pope Gregory the Great to convert England to Christianity – the Pope is said to have been struck by the beauty of Angle slaves in Rome's slave markets. Augustine was given a church in Canterbury which still stands today – St Martin's – by Ethelbert, king of Kent. In AD 601 Augustine became the first archbishop of Canterbury and took his seat within the Roman city walls, building England's first cathedral there.

Until the 10th century, the cathedral community lived as the household of archbishop. They then became a formal community of Benedictine monks. Little is known about the original Anglo-Saxon cathedral, though recent excavations have discovered its foundations beneath the current nave. In 1067, the cathedral was destroyed by a fire and a rebuild began in 1070, creating much of the Norman church which still stands today.

The most shocking moment of the cathedral's long history involves a bloody murder, which took place within its own walls. In 1170, Henry II was struggling with his archbishop, Thomas Becket. Becket had excommunicated some of the King's favoured bishops and the pair disagreed over the extent of ecclesiastical jurisdiction versus that of the monarchy. So the story goes, the King was believed to have 'ordered' the archbishop's

ALAMY X3, GETTY IMAGES X1, PHOTOGRAPHER: ADRIAN C. SMITH/© CHAPTER OF CANTERBURY X4

The cloister of Canterbury Cathedral linked the various monastic buildings

WHAT TO LOOK FOR...

THE MARTYRDOM

A stone marks the spot where Thomas Becket was murdered, and a dramatic sculpture represents the four swords that killed him.

THE MIRACLE WINDOWS

Stained glass windows in the Trinity Chapel illustrate the miracles that have been reported since Becket's death.

THE QUIRE

The area of the church where the clergy and church choir sit. It was rebuilt after a fire in 1174 and much of it still remains from that time.

ST GABRIEL'S CHAPEL

This chapel in the cathedral's crypt boasts some of England's oldest Christian murals (from the 12th century), unearthed in the 1950s.

BLACK PRINCE'S TOMB

Eldest son of Edward III, Edward the Black Prince died in 1376, aged 45. He was granted a great state funeral and this tomb at Canterbury.

THE WATER TOWER

Canterbury's monks washed several times a day – when they woke and before each meal – using water drawn from this 12th-century tower.

> **"The cathedral's most shocking historical moment is Becket's bloody murder"**

arrest with an outburst: "Will no one rid me of this troublesome priest?". Henry later claimed that this was not a serious request or order, but four overzealous knights took his words seriously and travelled to Canterbury, intent on murder. On 29 December the knights arrived at the cathedral to find Becket kneeling before the high altar; they proceeded to brutally attack him with their swords.The attack was so violent that one sword sliced the crown off Becket's skull and shattered the blade's tip on the pavement. The martyred Becket was canonised in 1173, and pilgrims soon began flocking to Canterbury to visit the shrine of the murdered clergyman.

In 1534, Henry VIII officially broke with the Roman Catholic Church in order to obtain a divorce from his first wife. He created the Church of England, with the monarch – himself – at the head, removing the influence of the Pope. The majority of monasteries and churches across England, Wales and Ireland – including Canterbury – were stripped of their valuables and their wealth redistributed.

In 1538, Becket's shrine was destroyed, his relics lost and there were even some reports that Henry VIII posthumously put Becket on trial for heresy. Canterbury's time as a monastery had come to an end.

More destruction was to come during the British Civil Wars of the 17th century, the result of the Puritans' endeavours to 'cleanse' cathedrals of perceived 'popery'. Many of the cathedral's stained glass windows were smashed, along with statues and other objects of beauty. A period of refurbishment was undertaken between 1660 and 1704 to repair this damage.

The cathedral – in its various forms – has stood as a place of worship for more than 1,400 years and still welcomes a steady stream of pilgrims and visitors. ⊙

WHY NOT VISIT...

Other historical sites in Canterbury

CANTERBURY TALES

Chaucer's classic tale is brought to life with costumed guides and the sights, smells and sounds of medieval Canterbury. *www.canterburytales.org.uk*

CANTERBURY ROMAN MUSEUM

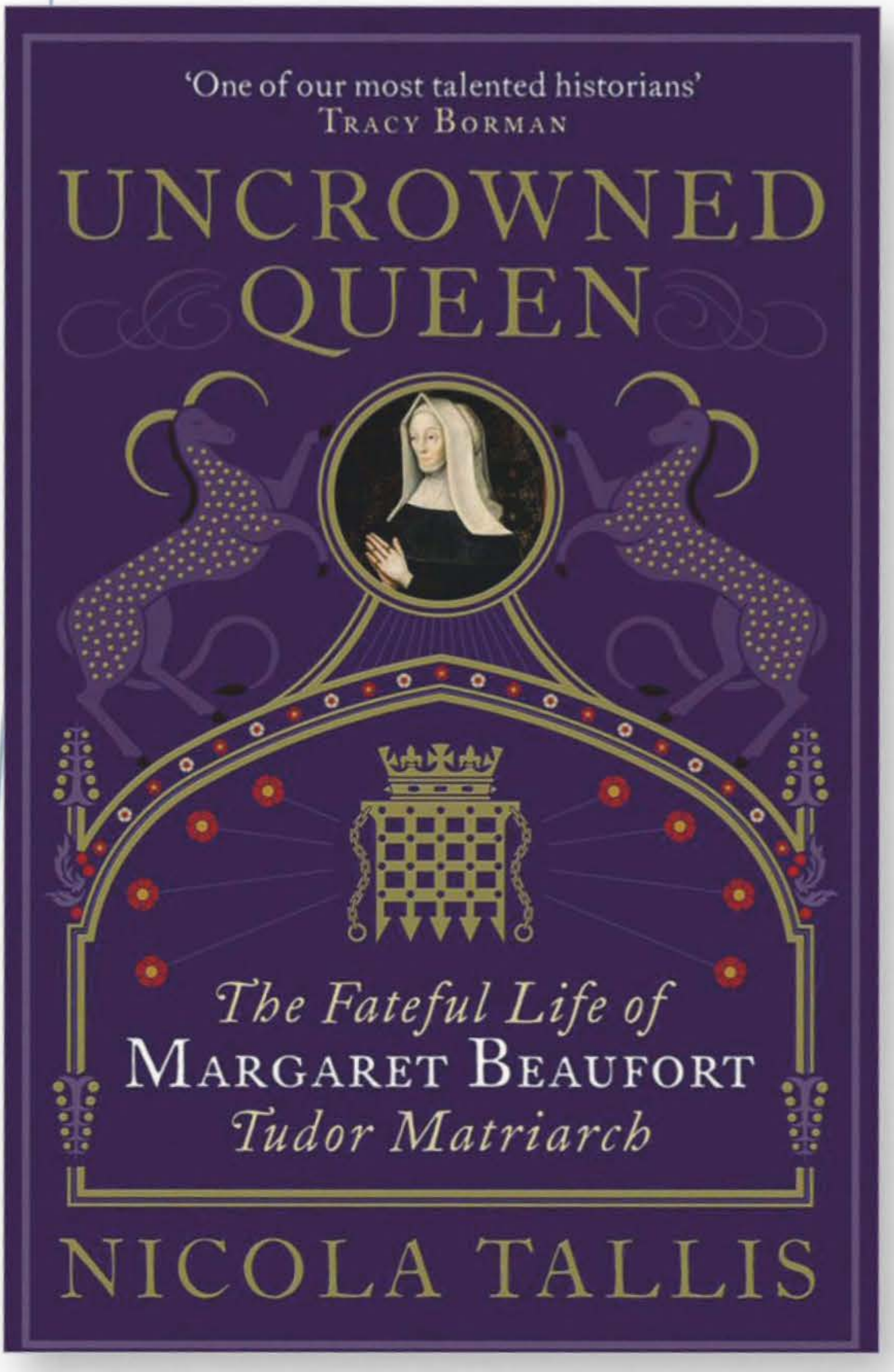
This museum, within the remains of a Roman courtyard house, is home to an impressive collection of goods from Roman times, including a silver hoard known as the Canterbury Treasure. *www.canterburymuseums.co.uk/romanmuseum*

EASTBRIDGE HOSPITAL

This 12th-century hospital provided shelter for poor pilgrims on their way to Canterbury and its cathedral. *www.eastbridgehospital.org.uk*

BOOKS

This month’s best historical reads


‘One of our most talented historians’
Tracy Borman
UNCROWNED QUEEN
The Fateful Life of
Margaret Beaufort
Tudor Matriarch
NICOLA TALLIS

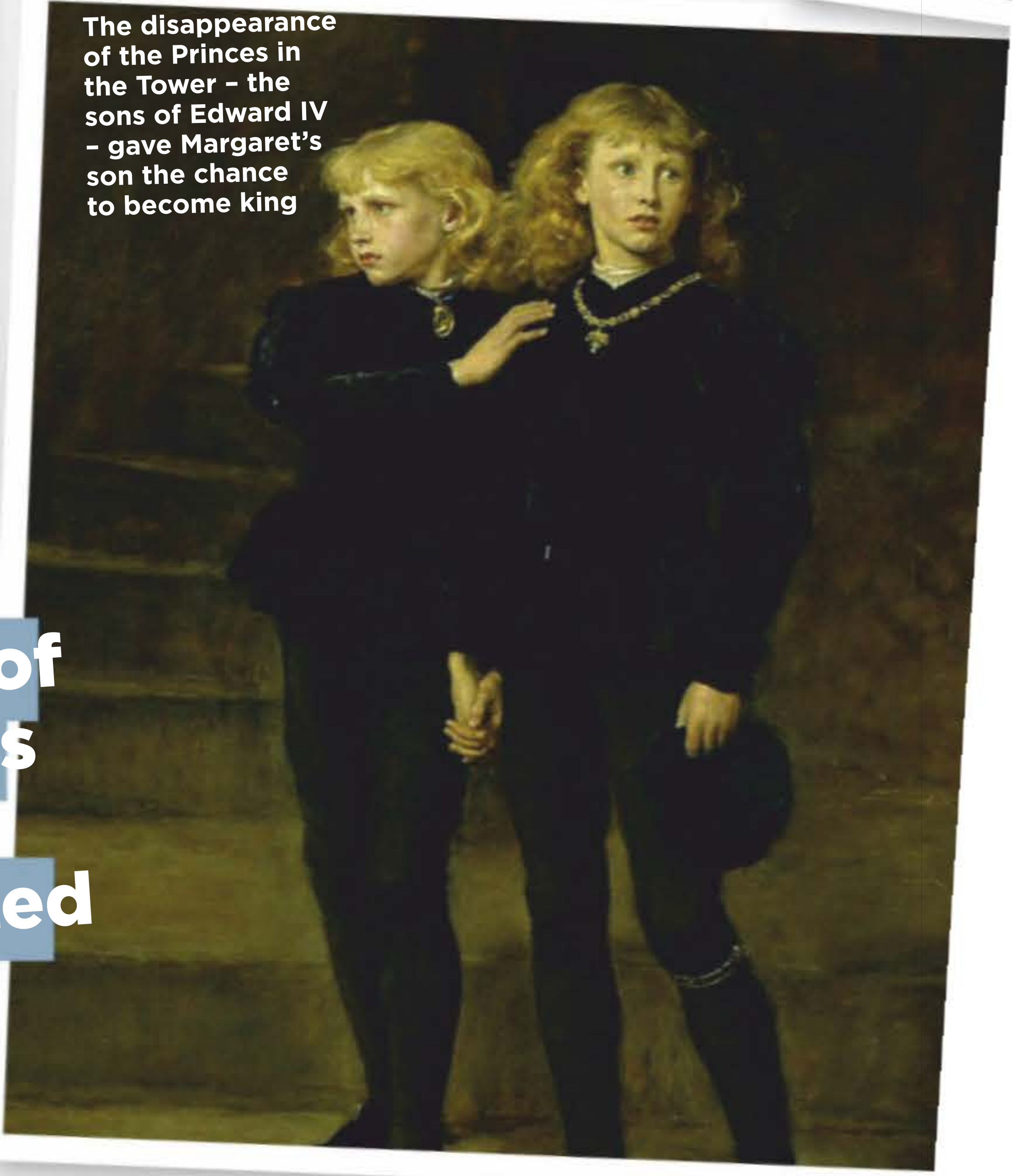
BOOK OF THE MONTH

Uncrowned Queen: The Fateful Life of Margaret Beaufort, Tudor Matriarch

By Nicola Tallis

Michael O’Mara, £20, hardback, 400 pages

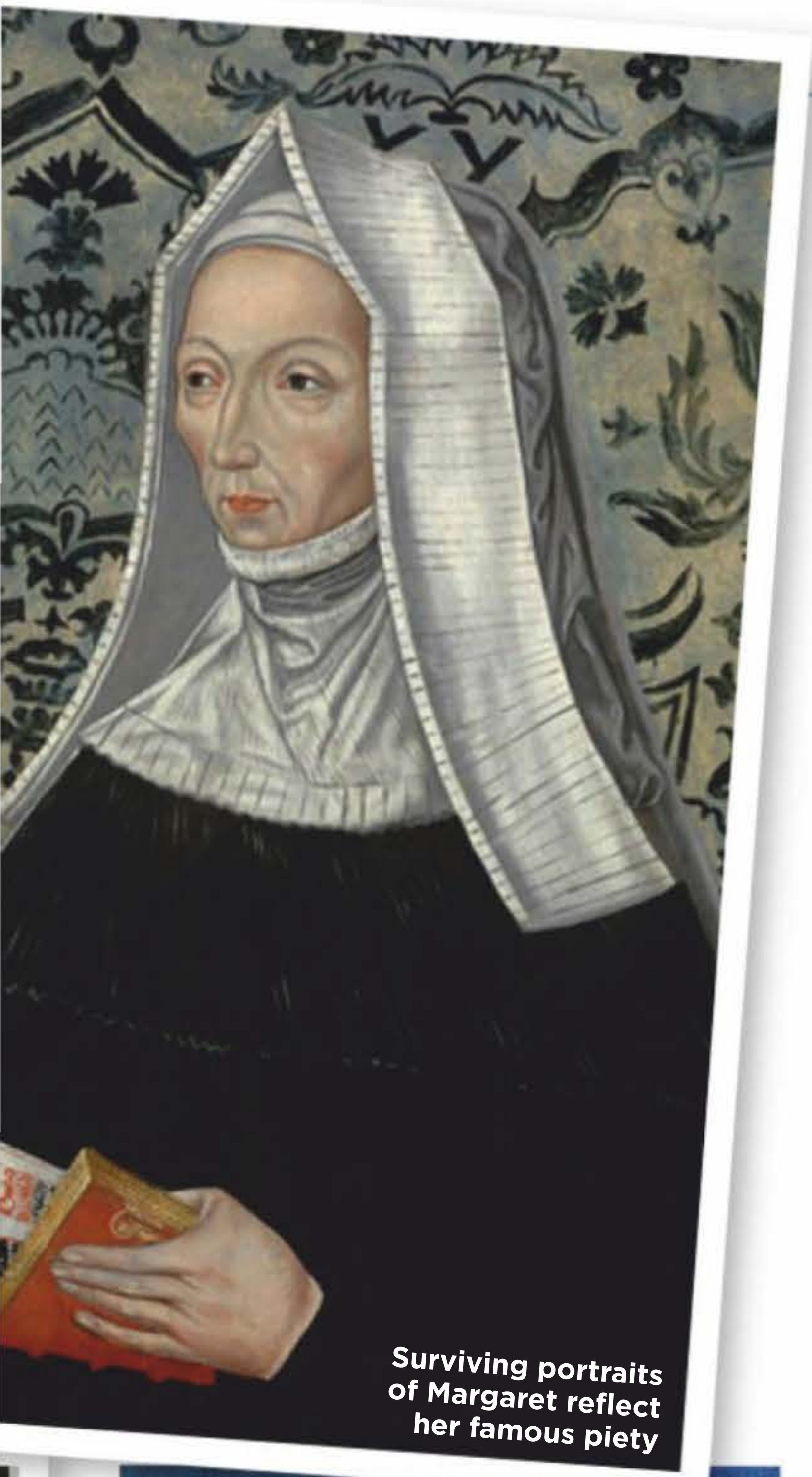
The male-centred nature of much of British history – and, until recently, its telling – has often meant that royal mothers have been relegated to supporting roles. This was long the fate of 15th-century Tudor matriarch Margaret Beaufort, a woman who even historian Nicola Tallis admits has long been “dismissed simply as being Henry VII’s mother – including by myself!” Tallis sets the record straight in this welcome biography, which traces Beaufort’s marriage – at the age of just 12 – to Henry Tudor, her relationship with her son, and her political manoeuvring throughout her subsequent marriages. Beaufort emerges as shrewd, resourceful, and worthy of attention in her own right.



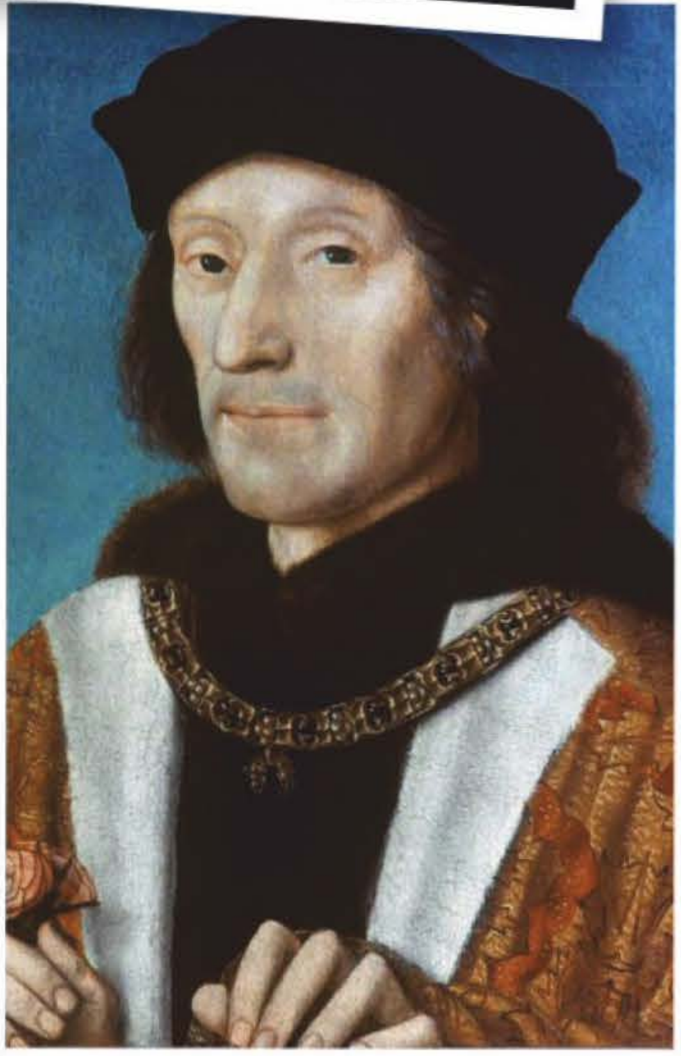
The disappearance of the Princes in the Tower – the sons of Edward IV – gave Margaret’s son the chance to become king

> **“The male-centred nature of much of British history has often meant that royal mothers have been relegated to supporting roles**

ALAMY X3, JOEY MENGHINI X1



Surviving portraits of Margaret reflect her famous piety



The bond between Margaret and her son, Henry VII, was the most important relationship in her life

MEET THE AUTHOR

Nicola Tallis explores the complex character of Margaret Beaufort, and explains why she deserves to be known as much more than Henry VII's mother

Why do you find Margaret Beaufort such an appealing figure?

Before starting my research I wasn't sure how interesting I'd find Margaret, and how far I'd be able to dig into her character. I was pleasantly surprised to discover that there's far more to her than meets the eye. When studying the surviving source material – especially Margaret's accounts and the narratives of those who knew her – a picture emerges of a woman who is extremely relatable in many ways. She endured innumerable perils and was wracked with anxiety for much of her life, yet she did much good for her family and the less fortunate. She also made the most of all of the fineries and luxury that life offered her!

What myths have surrounded Margaret, and what more accurate impression would you like to leave readers with?

The question I've been asked most frequently was whether Margaret was responsible for the murder of the Princes in the Tower. I'd like to point out that there isn't a shred of contemporary evidence to link Margaret with their disappearance, and I think that there's a very good reason for that.

> "She had a sense of humour, but could be ruthless on occasion"

Similarly, Margaret is often believed to have been overbearing and a religious fanatic. There's no doubt that she was pious – and proud to be. Likewise, she was a woman of strong character who wasn't prepared to be shoved into the background following her son's accession to the throne. This may well have caused some annoyance – particularly to her daughter-in-law, Elizabeth of York, on occasion – but on the flip side we must remember that Margaret had missed out on a great deal of her son's life and had risked much in her support of his claim to the throne. Ultimately she wasn't perfect, but she was human. She had the same flaws as we all do, but many admirable qualities as well.

What did you make of her personality?

Margaret was certainly a complex character with many layers. At heart she was a family woman who loved her son above all else, but also cared very deeply for the other members. She was capable of great kindness and generosity, not only to her friends and family, but also to the poor whose needs she took most seriously. She had a sense of humour and enjoyed a joke, but could also be ruthless on occasion.

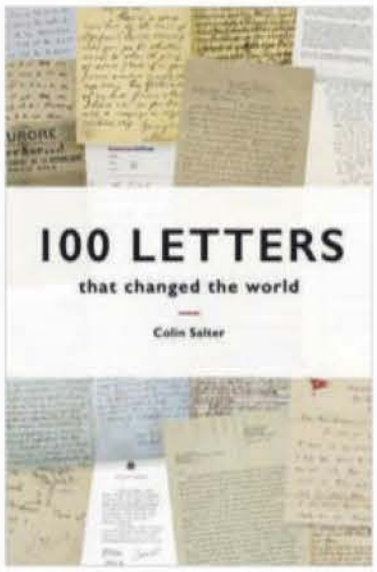
What were her most important, and lasting, legacies?

Margaret was an integral part of the most famous dynasty in English history – one that continues to intrigue and fascinate us. She was very keen to be remembered as a part of it, too. However, the two Cambridge colleges of Margaret's foundation – Christ's and St John's – also show a determination to create an enduring legacy in her own right, from which others could benefit. In this she was certainly successful.

If you could travel back in time and ask Margaret a question, what would you ask?

Something that struck me about Margaret was her practicality – particularly when it came to marriage. Her marriages were all made for political, financial or social advantage rather than more personal reasons, none of which was unusual. The true love of her life was evidently her son, but I'd be intrigued to know if she ever experienced feelings of romantic love towards another – even if not with a husband.

Nicola Tallis discusses Margaret Beaufort on the History Extra podcast: *www.historyextra.com/podcast*

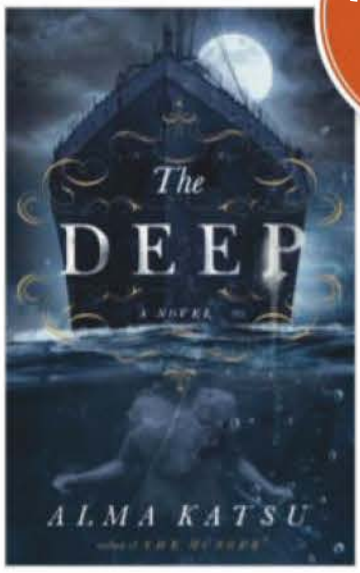

100 LETTERS
that changed the world
Colin Salter

100 Letters that Changed the World

By Colin Salter
Pavilion Books, £14.99, hardback, 224 pages

An accessible, visually appealing overview of some of history's most crucial correspondence. Leonardo da Vinci boasts of his skills to a potential employer; Henry VIII pens a love note to Anne Boleyn; Eleanor Roosevelt takes a stand against discrimination. These letters offer vibrant insights into both their authors and the times in which they lived, and more recent examples bring the story into the present.

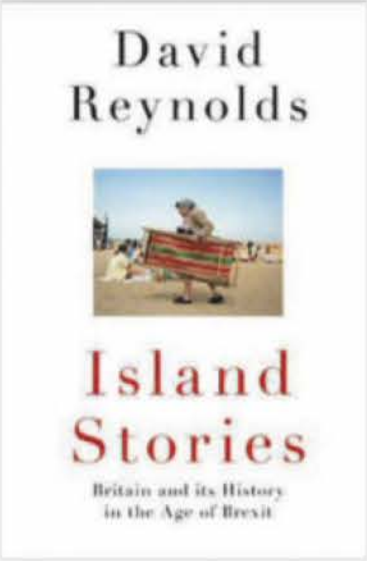
HISTORICAL FICTION


The DEEP
A NOVEL
ALMA KATSU

The Deep

By Alma Katsu
Bantam, £12.99, hardback, 320 pages

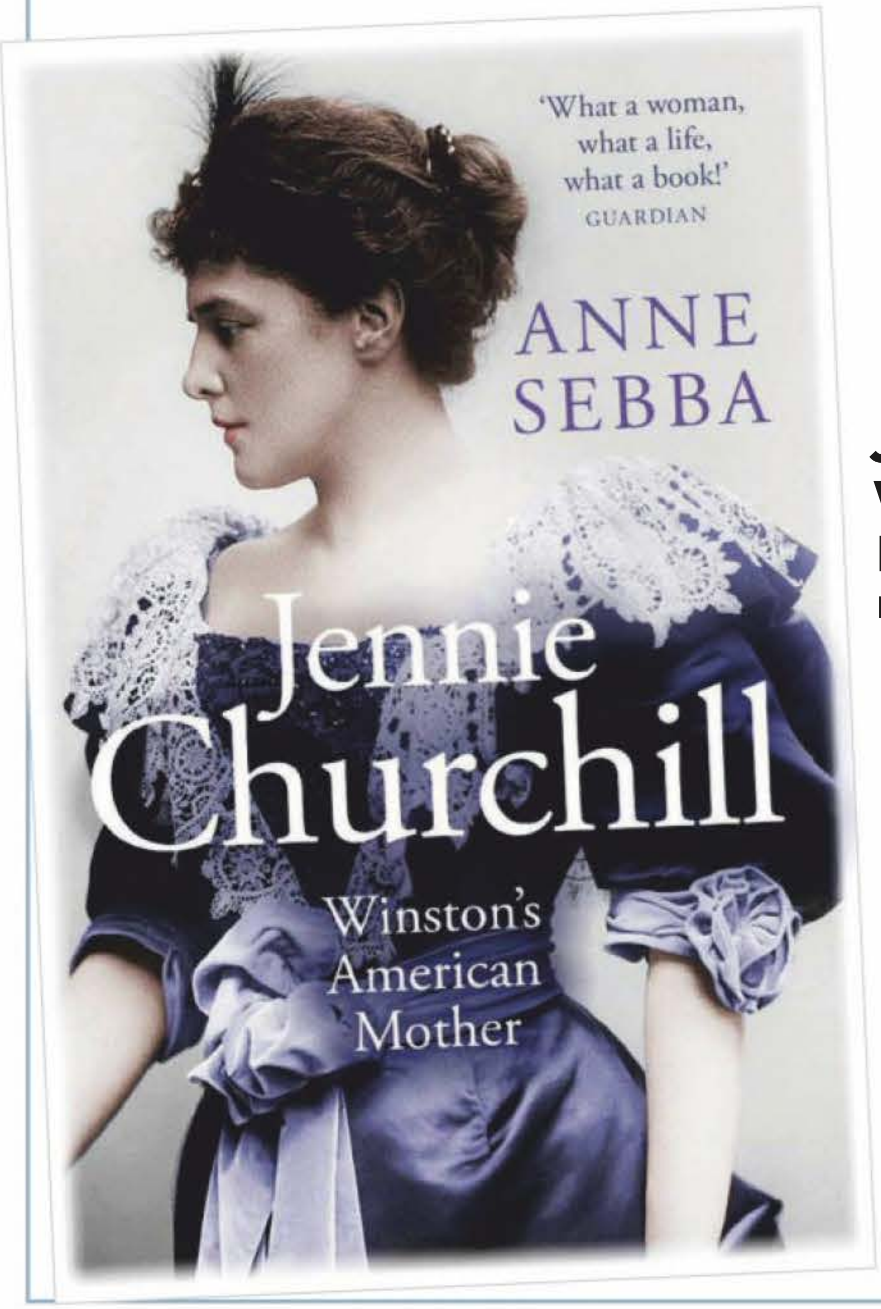
April 1912: *Titanic* sets out on its maiden voyage across the Atlantic. Four years later, Annie Hebbley is recovering from the physical and psychological wounds that she endured in its sinking, when a letter invites her to come aboard the ship's sister vessel, the *Brittanic*. The inexplicable events that she encounters – disappearances, deaths, people who simply should not exist – make Annie question the true nature of the *Titanic* catastrophe in this atmospheric, supernatural-tinged novel.


David Reynolds
Island Stories
Britain and its History in the Age of Brexit

Island Stories: Britain and its History in the Age of Brexit

By David Reynolds
William Collins, £16.99, hardback, 304 pages

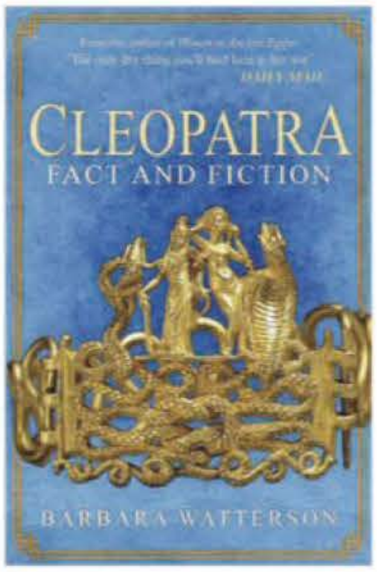
Few phrases have come to dominate the national conversation as quickly as 'Brexit'. Yet, as this book explores, it's an idea with deep historical roots. Spanning centuries, and taking in such foundational moments as the Acts of Union and the decline of the British Empire, it's a valuable look at how the past shaped how Britain came to see itself and the world.


'What a woman, what a life, what a book!'
GUARDIAN
ANNE SEBBA
Jennie Churchill
Winston's American Mother

Jennie Churchill: Winston's American Mother

By Anne Sebba
Weidenfeld and Nicolson, £12.99, paperback, 432 pages

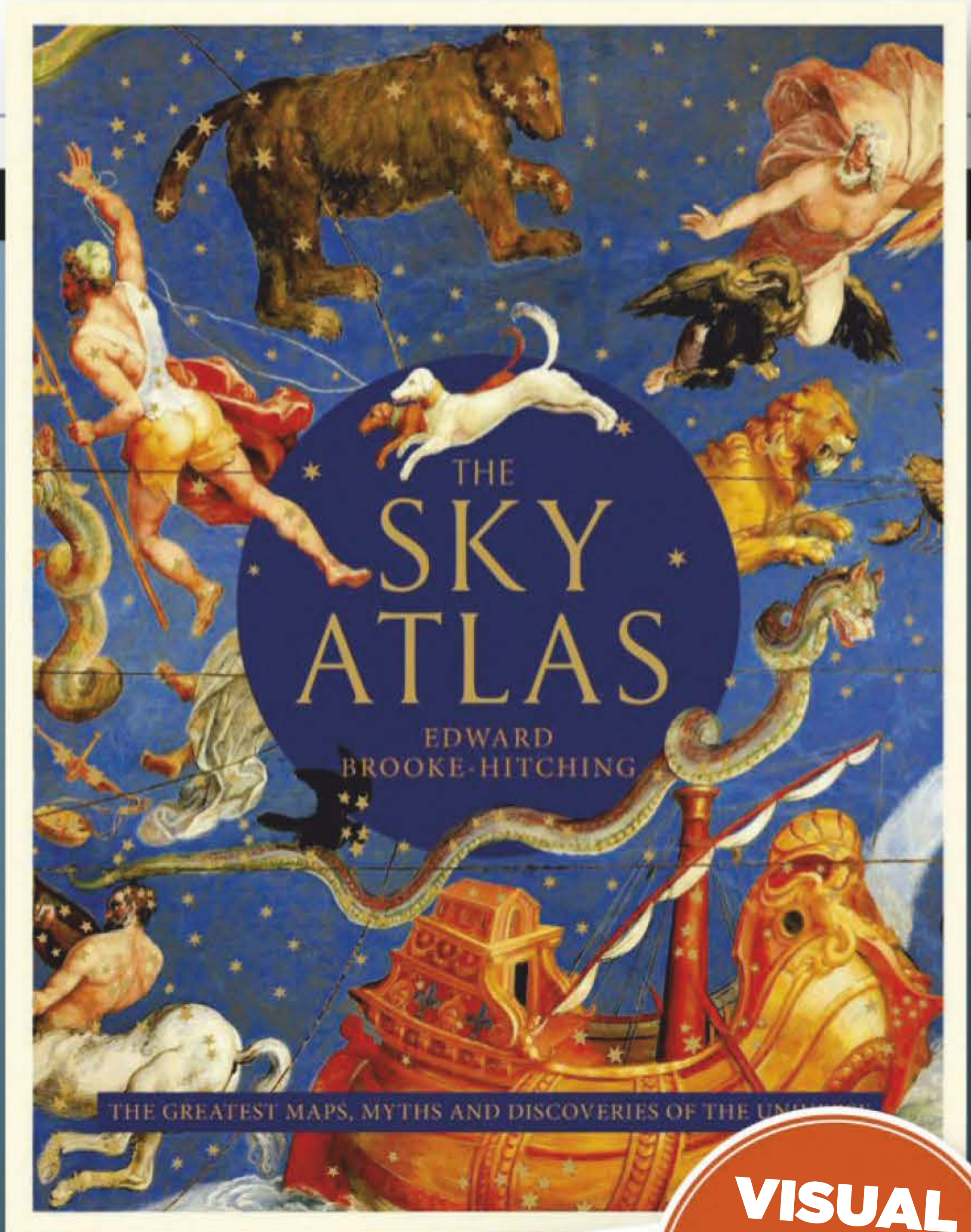
This biography of socialite and writer Jennie Churchill, first published in 2008, is here newly available in paperback. She is certainly a subject worth revisiting: born in New York and raised in Paris, Jennie endured a tumultuous marriage and financial crises to emerge as a tough, spirited, resourceful woman. And that's not all: her adoring, complex relationship with her son, Winston, was to shape one of the most important political figures in British history.


CLEOPATRA
FACT AND FICTION
BARBARA WATTERSON

Cleopatra: Fact and Fiction

By Barbara Watterson
Amberley, £10.99, paperback, 288 pages

We all think we know Cleopatra, the beautiful Egyptian queen who died from an asp bite – yet, as this biography shows, much of that description is wide of the mark. Not only that, but such myths have obscured the reality of a shrewd leader in a tumultuous era. Barbara Watterson sets the record straight, and charts the Roman propaganda and cinematic portrayals that have distorted our view of one of history's most famous women.



THE SKY ATLAS

EDWARD BROOKE-HITCHING

THE GREATEST MAPS, MYTHS AND DISCOVERIES OF THE UN

The Sky Atlas

By Edward Brook-Hitchings

Simon and Schuster, £25, hardback,
256 pages

As humans have walked the Earth, they've also always looked up to the stars, and what might be found among them. This richly produced visual guide offers a tour through centuries of celestial cartography, featuring maps, paintings and objects produced in an attempt to make sense of the skies. With its pages packed with gods, ghosts, wizards and aliens, the book is also a vivid testament to the human imagination.

> **"A tour through centuries of celestial cartography – and the human imagination"**

VISUAL BOOK OF THE MONTH

THE PHANTOM PLANET: VULCAN

W STUDY OF THE SKY

EUROPEAN ASTRONOMY

Gods, ghosts, wizards and aliens litter past maps of the sky

READERS' LETTERS

Get in touch – share your opinions on history and our magazine

LETTER OF THE MONTH

THROUGH A LENS

I really enjoyed reading 'America's Founding Fathers' (Christmas 2019), especially the picture of Elizabeth Eckford (one of the Little Rock Nine) on her first day at Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas. The first thing you notice in the eye-catching image is the look of hatred on the face of Hazel Bryan, pictured screaming at Elizabeth – the other eight black students planned to walk in together but couldn't contact Elizabeth because her family didn't have a telephone.

The picture appeared in every major newspaper across America and the world (including Russia); Hazel Bryan soon became notorious, and her parents removed her from the school because of this attention.

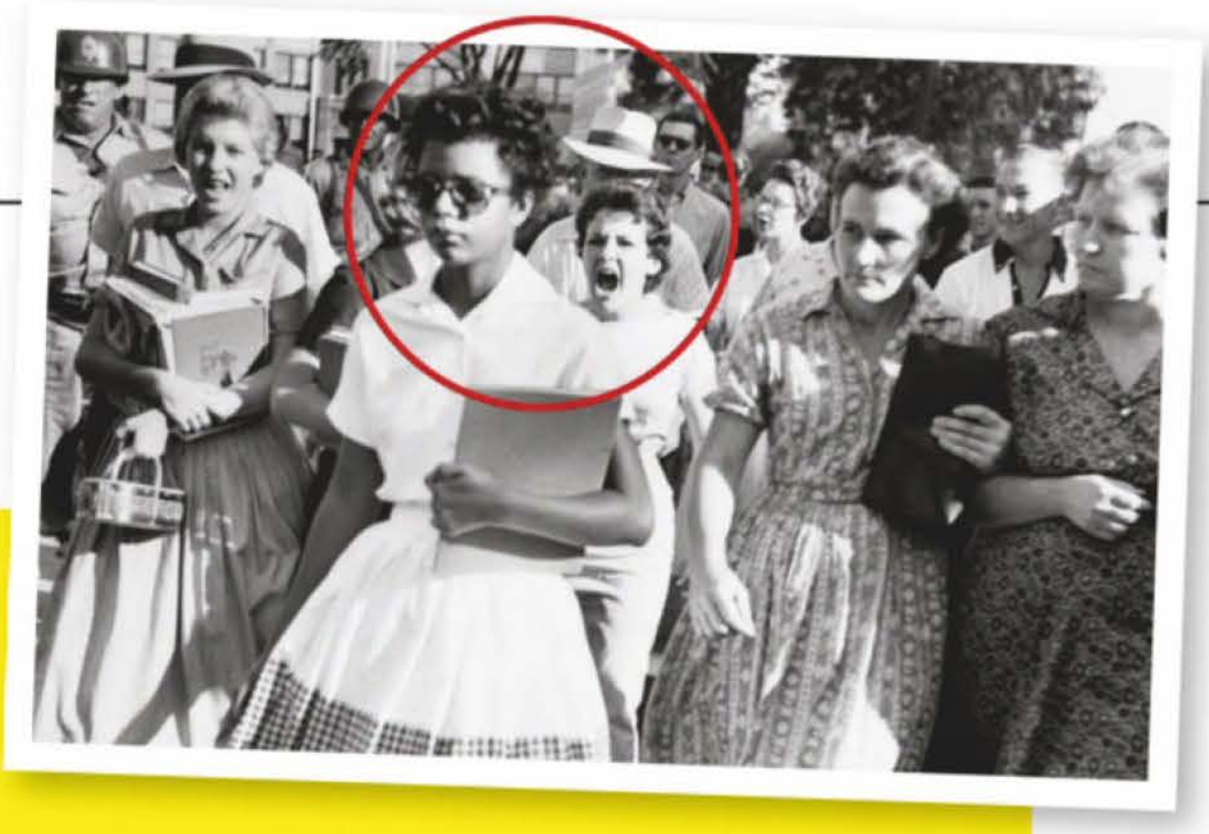
Elizabeth and the other eight students were verbally and physically attacked throughout the year, despite being protected by the National Guard; one of the Little Rock Nine students stood up to the white students and was expelled. Only one of the Nine graduated from the school as the following year Little Rock closed all schools for a year rather than integrate.

Hazel became remorseful for what she had done that day, taking up social work and activism, and working with black teenagers in the Little Rock area, including counselling young mothers. Hazel and Elizabeth briefly became friends in the late 1990s, until Elizabeth started to doubt Hazel's sincerity.

This picture still shocks more than 60 years on: the juxtaposition of anger from Hazel and the dignified stance of Elizabeth during this horrible time in American history.

✉ **Stephen Baker,**
Gwent

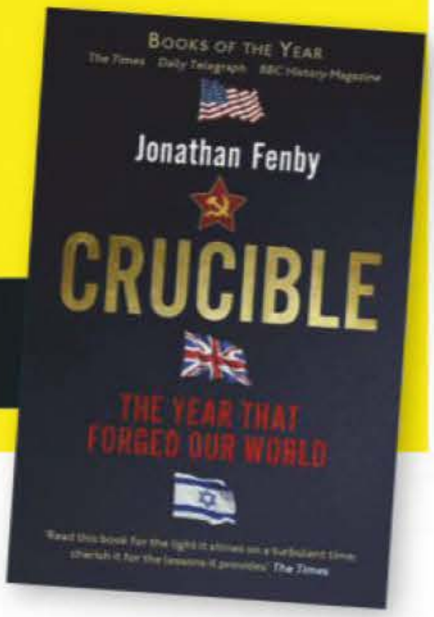
"The first thing you notice is the look of hatred on the face of Hazel Bryan"



LOOK OF HATRED
Bryan was vilified for this look of loathing directed at Eckford (*both circled*)

Editor's reply
Thank you for your comments, Stephen. The photograph, taken by American photojournalist Will Counts, is often referred to as 'the Scream Image' and is certainly one of most memorable photographs of the Civil Rights era.

Stephen receives a copy of *Crucible: The Year That Forged Our World* by Jonathan Fenby


Books of the Year
The Times Daily Telegraph BBC History Magazine
Jonathan Fenby
CRUCIBLE
THE YEAR THAT FORGED OUR WORLD

BEASTLY TALES

I read your article 'Fantastic (Medieval) Beasts' (January 2020 issue) with delight and want to introduce readers to another phantasmal beast from Korea called Kumiho, meaning a 'nine-tailed fox', said to live in the heart of the mountain.

Originally born of the spirit of a dead fox, the snow-white, gray-eyed Kumiho, with the voice of a baby, lives up to a thousand years with a blue magic marble possessing the knowledge of all things in the world. The Kumiho is also an excellent shapeshifter, often in the figure of a beautiful young maiden intent on luring a man into marriage so that it can become fully human on the 100th day of the marriage.

However, if any mortal sees it devouring the livers of livestock or corpses at night before the 100th day, the Kumiho can neither become a human nor will it ascend to the celestial kingdom of eternal bliss, but will live another thousand years on Earth until it achieves the intention. There have been accounts that several hikers have sighted the Kumiho deep in the mountains of South Korea…

✉ **Stephanie Joori Suh,**
California

CREEPY CRITTERS
This terrifying menagerie is thankfully lost to time

GETTY IMAGES X1

BOUND FOR BRITAIN
WINDRUSH
LONDON

RUSH OF EMOTION
HMT *Empire Windrush* arrives in Britain in 1948

WINDRUSH RECEPTION

I was disappointed, but not overly surprised, to read such an unfair and generalised appraisal of British people towards Windrush immigrants in Colin Grant's otherwise informative piece ('Bound for Britain', January 2020 issue). Considering those from Jamaica came, voluntarily, to a Britain still raw and recovering from the ravages and huge personal losses of six years of war, their reception was a lot better than many like to claim.

Much has been made of the hostilities faced by immigrants of colour to post-war Britain, but I think a lot more credit is due to the majority of people who, despite often intense hardships and deprivations of their own, were at least willing to give new arrivals a chance and make them welcome.

✉ **Stefan Badham,**
Hampshire

Colin Grant replies:
After several years of research, interviewing numerous British West Indians now in their eighties and consulting other primary sources, I believe the picture I painted of the West Indian experience is an accurate one. Often, life is not as we imagine and, though some details in the feature may be an uncomfortable read, they do represent the harsh reality. Many of the adult children of my West Indian interviewees actually thought that the feature didn't go far enough in depicting the darkness of the story; such a desire was fuelled by the notion that half the story has never been told. Notwithstanding the Windrush Scandal, times have changed – for the better.

While there were incidences of kindness of British people towards West Indians, I was struck in my research by the candour and casual racism of many white Britons in the 1939 Mass Observation survey (on attitudes towards "Negroes"), even as they denied being prejudiced. My mother, Ethlyn, who features in the article, was part of the Windrush Generation. She came across British sympathisers, but her closest friend was an Irish woman, Anne Hennigan. I often wondered if this was partly because both felt like outsiders. Ethlyn was an ardent church-goer and would often recite passages of scripture: one of her favourites, and apt for this occasion was: "Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares" (Hebrews 13:2).

CORRECTIONS

- In the '10 Horrifying Haunts' feature (November 2019), we incorrectly gave the date of the Battle of Culloden as 16 August 1746. The battle actually took place on 16 April 1746. Thanks to reader Ian Kerr for pointing this out.

ARE YOU A WINNER?

The lucky winners of the crossword from issue 75 are:
N Spence, York, **J Richards**, Abingdon, **R Beckett**, London
Congratulations! You've each won a copy of ***November 1918*** by Gordon Brook-Shepherd

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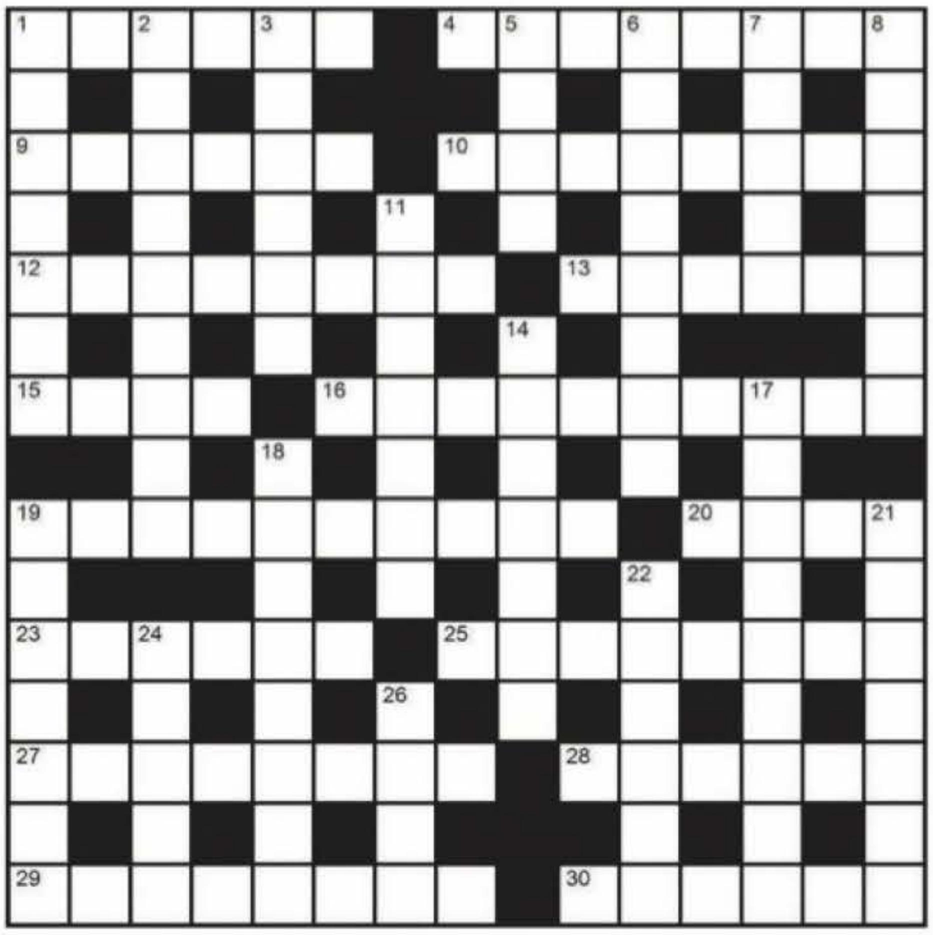
ANSWERS TO THE SCOTLAND YARD QUIZ FROM PAGES 48-49

1. 5274163 **2.** Opal; Pearl; Garnet; Diamond; Ruby; Peridot **3.** Keys 3 and 7 **4.** Take the glass fourth from the left. Pour the contents in the empty glass, far left, making sure not to touch the glass that is being filled. Replace your glass back in to position fourth from the left. **5.** Hip; Chin; Rib; Lip; Heel; Gland; Toe; Leg **6.** Start both timers. When the smaller of the timers runs out after five minutes, turn it over and let it start again. The larger timer still has four minutes before it runs out to measure nine minutes. Turn the smaller hourglass over again. Four minutes of sand will have run in to the lower area. Let that sand run down again. When it is finished the target of 13 will be reached. **7.** Arsenic; Cyanide; Deadly Nightshade; Monkshood; Hemlock **8.** Let sleeping dogs lie **9.** 2D **10.** Oslo; Seoul; Brussels; Colombo; Rome **11.** Room 22 **12.** I can see you on the jetty if you want. Is noon tomorrow OK? I hope so.

CROSSWORD Nº 78

Test your history knowledge to solve our prize puzzle – and you could win a fantastic new book

Set by Richard Smyth



ACROSS

1 Navy (especially that of 16th-century Spain) (6)

4 "Brevity is the soul of ___" – Dorothy Parker (attrib) (8)

9 See 1 Down

10 1785 Robert Burns poem (2,1,5)

12 US lyricist (1921–2012), songwriting partner of Burt Bacharach (3,5)

13 AJ ___ (1896–1981), Scottish author of works including *The Citadel* and *Country Doctor* (6)

15 North Atlantic Treaty Organisation, founded 1949 (4)

16 See 1 Down

19 'What is it men in women do require? The ___ of Gratified Desire' – William Blake (10)

20 Ancient Egyptian symbol (4)

23 German prisoner-of-war camp (6)

25 Alfred, Lord ___ (1809–92), appointed poet laureate in 1850 (8)

27 Writers Osbert, Edith and Sacheverell (8)

28 Jean ___ (1894–1967), leading figure in the Harlem renaissance (6)

29 Latin term meaning 'behold the man', spoken by Pontius Pilate (4,4)

30 Annie ___ (born 1954), Scottish singer and songwriter, and multiple Brit winner (6)

DOWN

1/9/19D/16 1878 painting by William Yeames, depicting a scene from the Civil Wars (3,4,3,3,4,3,4,6)

2 Thomas ___ (1580–1627), English playwright (9)

3 Antonín ___ (1841–1904), Czech composer (6)

5 "This policy … can only be carried out through blood and ___" – Otto von Bismarck, 1886 (4)

6 City of the plain whose destruction is described in the book of Genesis (8)

7 Norman city in which Joan of Arc was burned in 1431 (5)

8 Fair Maid of Brittany (died 1241) (7)

11 French city known to the Romans as Augustoritum (7)

14 Benjamin ___ (1913–76), Lowestoft-born composer (7)

17 "An ___'s the noblest work of God" – Alexander Pope, 1734 (6,3)

18 Childhood home of Jesus (8)

19 See 1

21 Jimi ___ (1942–70), Seattle-born guitarist (7)

22 Shakespeare ___, 1998 historical comedy (2,4)

24 From or relating to ancient Athens (5)

26 Nickname of the writer PG Wodehouse (1881–1975) (4)

CHANCE TO WIN

Peter Ackroyd
Dickens

Conversations with Dickens

by Paul Schlicke

What would it have been like to sit with Charles Dickens and interview him? One of the world's foremost Dickens scholars imagines what the great man might have had to say about writing, religion, social change and more.

BOOK WORTH £9.99 FOR THREE WINNERS

Published by Watkins, £9.99

HOW TO ENTER

Post entries to **BBC History Revealed, February 2020 Crossword, PO Box 501, Leicester LE94 0AA** or email them to **february2020@historyrevealedcomps.co.uk** by noon on **1 March 2020**.

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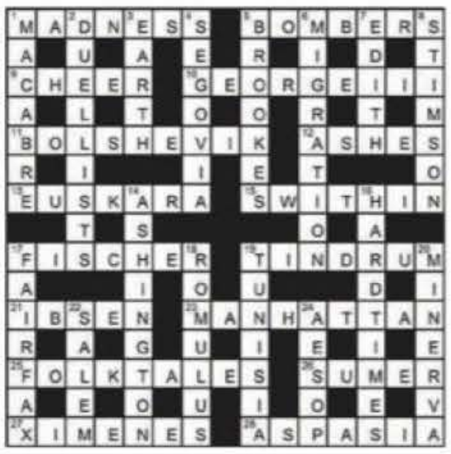
SOLUTION Nº 76



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NEXT MONTH

ON SALE **20 FEBRUARY**

BOTCHED EXECUTIONS

Being executed was bad enough, but sometimes it went horribly, horribly wrong

ALSO NEXT MONTH...

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Listen to music from The Wombles (the band) on the BBC website *bit.ly/womblesmusic*

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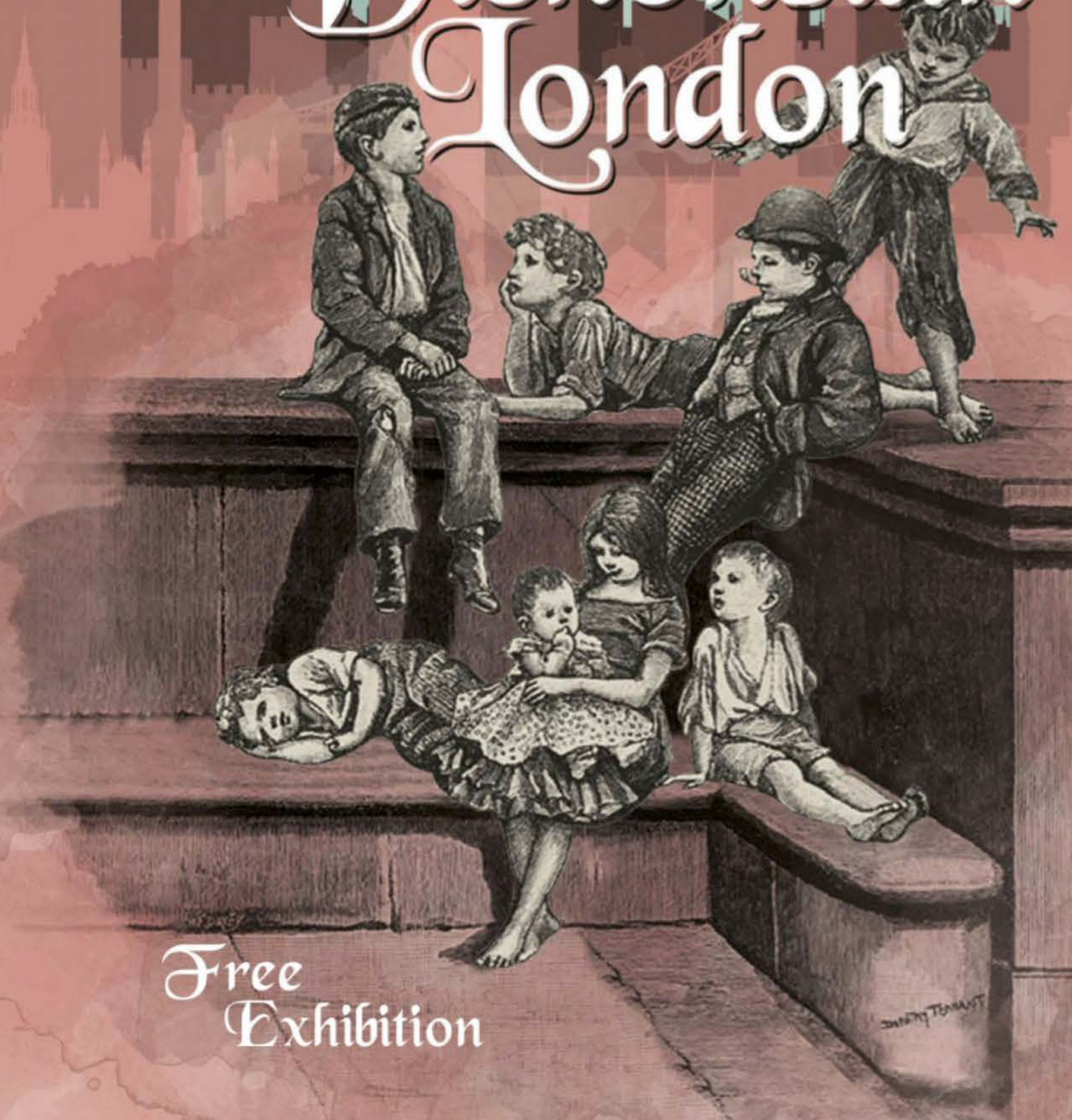
20 January – 20 June 2020

Childhood in Dickensian London



Free
Exhibition

> "In the little world in which children have their existence, whosoever brings them up, there is nothing so finely perceived and so finely felt as injustice."
>
> – Charles Dickens, Great Expectations

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